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Man Utd's  
'Batman and Robin'

MAGAZINE!

26th September, 1987

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# Why the Man United captain is on top of the world!

**T**hey call us 'Batman and Robin'. I'm not sure which one is 'Robin' but the Remi Moses and Bryan Robson midfield task-force for Manchester United is seen as largely responsible for our table-topping exploits this season.

For the first time in more than two years, Remi is fully fit. I've had my share of problems, but I'm feeling fitter than I have ever been.

We're a hunting pair, and a fair number of First Division

## BRYAN ROBSON

### Column

opponents are being given a tough time when we're weighing in for tackles.

We're closing people down quickly, denying them space as the coaches say, and then we snap into the tackle.

Remi and I have shared this responsibility for eight years, long before we joined United, in our West Bromwich Albion days.

The only difference today is that Manchester United have made him a better player. He is neat and tidy on the ball, but as Alex Ferguson will tell you, Remi is a terrific passer, with a tremendous sense of pace and angle in delivering his passes.

A quiet lad, Remi does all his talking with his boots!

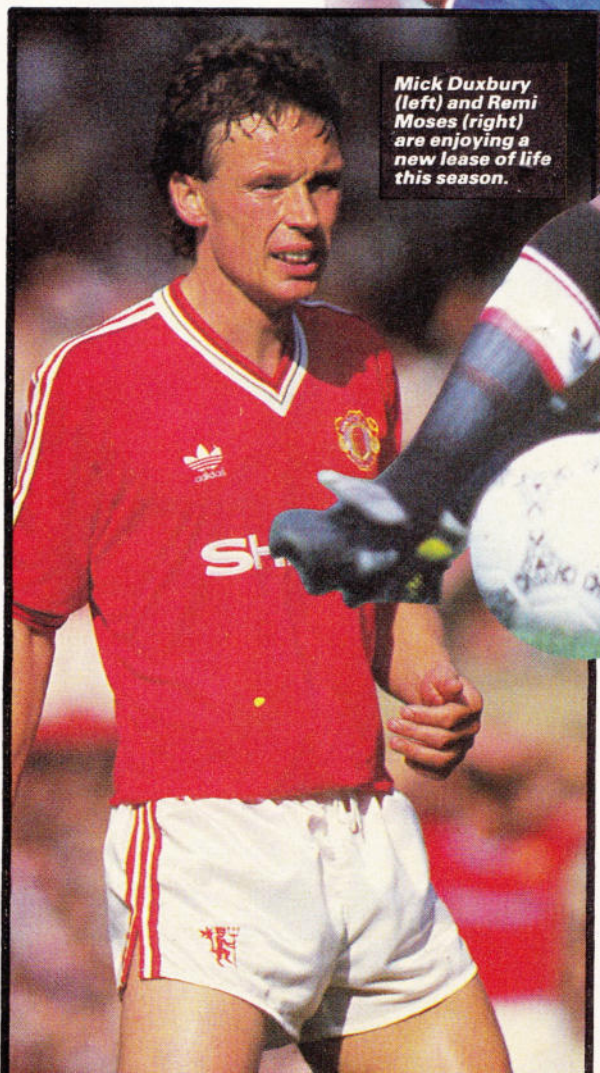
Injuries prevented us from playing together more than three times in 1985-86, and last season we were in action as a pair only 11 times.

I happen to believe that Remi Moses could be nudging Bobby Robson for an England call-up by next year's European Championships.

# THE



Mick Duxbury (left) and Remi Moses (right) are enjoying a new lease of life this season.



## MIGHTY

**W**ho wrote-off Micky Duxbury? Be honest, how many thought the Manchester United defender was finished?

A fair number, I bet, especially when Ron Atkinson left Old Trafford and Alex Ferguson arrived just under a year ago.

Micky has survived and is now playing superbly at left-back after making ten England appearances at right back in 1984-85.

It might surprise a few people but I rated Micky United's most consistent player last



# NTERS

## Big Norm Protect him

# that's us



## McCLAIR - calm and ruthless

**A**ll the great strikers have been cool and ruthlessly efficient. They never rush, always have time to pick their spot, and slot the ball in the net with the minimum of fuss.

Brian McClair is that sort of striker.

He scored in Manchester United's wins against Watford, Charlton and Chelsea, the third taking us to the top of the table, and if he keeps up his strike-rate we will launch a determined

campaign for the First Division title.

The difference between McClair and some of the other strikers signed by Manchester United in recent years, some for big money, is his composure and relaxed manner under pressure from the masses who follow our biggest clubs.

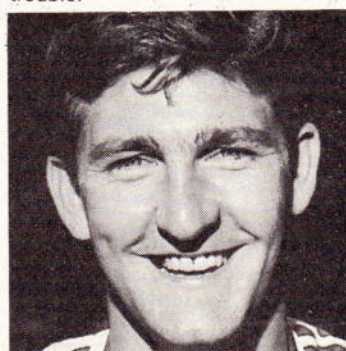
It must have been his Celtic training, another major British club where players can be overwhelmed unless they have the confidence to survive.

Brian is so relaxed. His goal against Chelsea was a cracker. So was the one at Charlton and First Division defences are in for a tough time if he keeps up his growing relationship with co-striker Norman Whiteside.

**N**orman Whiteside is a marked man – and that's unfair. I am not talking about his collisions with defenders, but his problems with referees.

I have thought for a long time that match officials are not giving Manchester United's Northern Ireland striker a fair deal.

There are dozens of First Division players getting away with illegal tackles without a hint of trouble.



When Norman moves in for a challenge it is a different matter.

He was cautioned for his very first tackle in our 3-1 victory against Chelsea. I think it was the first challenge of the game.

Referees are 'looking for Norman' and I think he needs more consideration.

Football has always been played in a competitive atmosphere. If you have the ball, it is up to your opponent to take it off you. He can only do that by launching a tackle.

First Division football is played at such speed that players can mistime their challenge. Referees must be aware of whether a tackle is launched with malicious intent... or is just a slip-up caused by your opponent's pace.

## WAKE-UP! RON'S BACK

**G**etting the sack from Manchester United does not make you a bad manager.

I said that when Ron Atkinson left Old Trafford and I feel it today when I see my old boss reinstated as a manager at our old club West Bromwich Albion.

I was very sad when he left United and I am delighted to see Ron back in the big time at The Hawthorns.

Make no mistake, he is the man for the job.

*Sir Alex Ferguson*



Brian McClair is so relaxed in front of goal.

## MICKY!

season.

And he's proved quite capable of playing at left-back. Don't forget that Mick Mills, a right footed player, was a superb left-back in most of his England appearances.

The modern player has to be fairly adaptable. They don't come more bionic than Micky.

He was nearly sold to Everton a couple of years ago. I'm as relieved as the boss that the deal fell through.



**Football's wild-man Mark Dennis makes a shock**

# I've been to

**M**ark Dennis, the Queens Park Rangers full-back who has probably the worst disciplinary record in the Football League, believes he has finally conquered the temper that has earned him the nickname "Mad Mark".

Dennis has been sent-off eight times and charged with bringing the game into disrepute on three occasions. Last season he was sacked by Southampton, but reinstated after an appeal.

The Players' Union boss Gordon Taylor, who has fought for freedom of speech for his members, suggested a clause in Dennis' contract banning him from speaking to the Press in an attempt to help the defender.

Dennis' talent has never been in doubt, but during his stormy career with Birmingham City and Southampton he was in the news for all the wrong reasons.

Little under a year ago one national newspaper demanded that Dennis should be banned for life from football after yet another bust-up.

When Southampton, who have proved they can handle difficult or outspoken players over the years, decided Dennis was too hot to handle, even for them,

there seemed little hope for him.

In fact, Dennis had virtually decided to quit soccer and become a barrow boy, owning a stall in London's famous Petticoat Lane market.

But one man still had faith in Dennis - QPR manager Jim Smith, who was in charge of the player for six years at Birmingham.

The £25,000 Smith paid for Southampton for their sinning Saint may just prove to be one of the best investments of the season - "a steal" the Rangers boss calls it.

Smith admits he has had lots of "chats" with Dennis. During the pre-season tour of Norway, Dennis was substituted for his own good after things started to cut up rough on the field.

But Smith says: "I'm pleased with the way Mark has controlled his bad moments. You can't disregard his record, but he's responded to me."

## 'Mature'

"On our artificial surface you can't dive in with lunging tackles and this will help Mark. He seems much more mature now."

"If I'm honest, I'd have to say he isn't as quick as he was at Birmingham. But he has a better touch on the ball now and is more experienced."

Dennis says he has news for the doubters and his early season form for top of the table Rangers suggests he is winning his personal battle.

"Jim Smith has really got into me and he won't stand for any nonsense," he insists.

"He came down hard on me when I stepped out of line at Birmingham and didn't hesitate to fine me."

"I know I'm a marked man. I also know opponents will try to

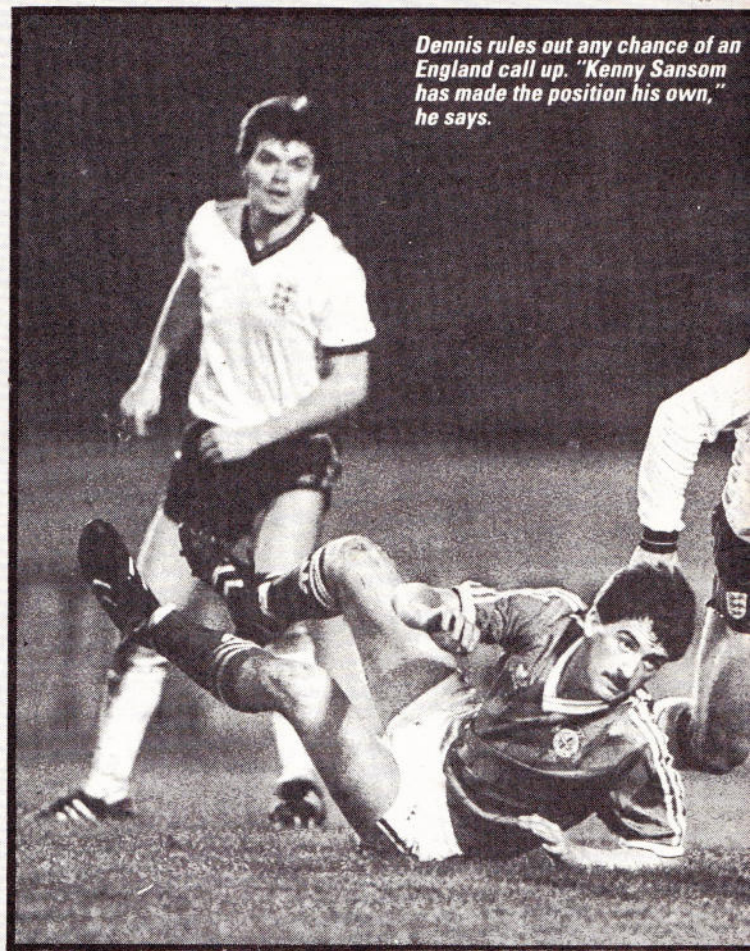
wind me up - and if I played against someone like myself I'd do the same.

"People are just waiting for me to have my first blow-up and this goes through my mind before every match."

"It's a pressure but football is all about overcoming pressure."

"If I can go through half the season and show everyone I can curb my temper then I think I'll get a fair crack of the whip. I'm biting my lip and I feel more in

*Dennis rules out any chance of an England call up. "Kenny Sansom has made the position his own," he says.*



## Jim Smith:

**"You can't disregard Mark's record, but he has responded to me."**

control of myself. I'm 26 now and I'm more responsible.

"When Southampton sacked me it was the lowest point in my career. I seriously considered packing it all in and getting a barrow in Petticoat Lane."

Not surprisingly, there were few takers when Dennis became available. He had the chance to join Luton and spoke to Chelsea chairman Ken Bates - "he told me to get my hair cut."

Dennis jumped at the prospect of working with Smith again and genuinely wants to repay the manager for the faith he has shown.

Wisely Dennis ignores talk about furthering his England international career.

"Kenny Sansom is still a very good player and I'm not exactly the most popular person with the FA. I'm just looking forward to helping QPR have a really good season. We're looking for a top six place, at least."



*confession...*

# imed



## **Mark Dennis:**

*"When  
Southampton  
sacked me,  
it was the  
lowest point  
in my career."*





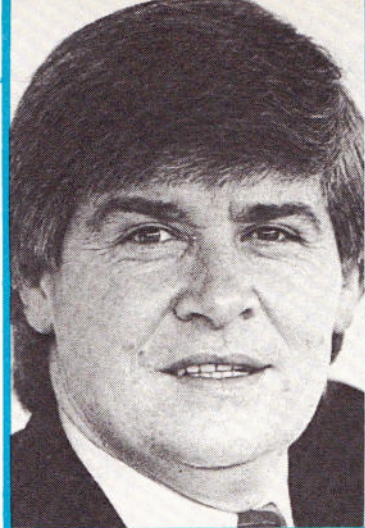


## Second Round 1st-leg

**H**ad it not been for an injury time goal in their final match last season, Torquay United would no longer be a Football League side and looking forward to a glamour Littlewoods Cup clash with Spurs.

If that was not enough of a fairytale in itself, the story reaches greater heights of fantasy when you learn that Torquay's new boss of only two months is none other than former Spurs favourite Cyril Knowles.

"I still can't really believe it," says the man who was immortalised on the pop record 'Nice One Cyril' for his performance in the Spurs number three shirt back in the early 1970's.



Although Knowles is looking forward to his own sentimental return, it is his own players for whom he is most pleased.

"I played most of my career at the top level," says the Torquay boss, "but the lads at Torquay haven't had that chance and many of them probably won't get any higher than they are now."

"Hopefully we will be able to get to White Hart Lane early so the team can have a look round the place. I want them to enjoy the occasion and make it a day to treasure."

Knowles has inherited most of the team that narrowly avoided the drop last season and he says

# Cyril's back!

## Super Spur Knowles goes 'home'

"I've been back to White Hart Lane for Bill Nicholson's testimonial and I took part in the Spurs Centenary game, but this will be my first visit there in a competitive game as a manager."

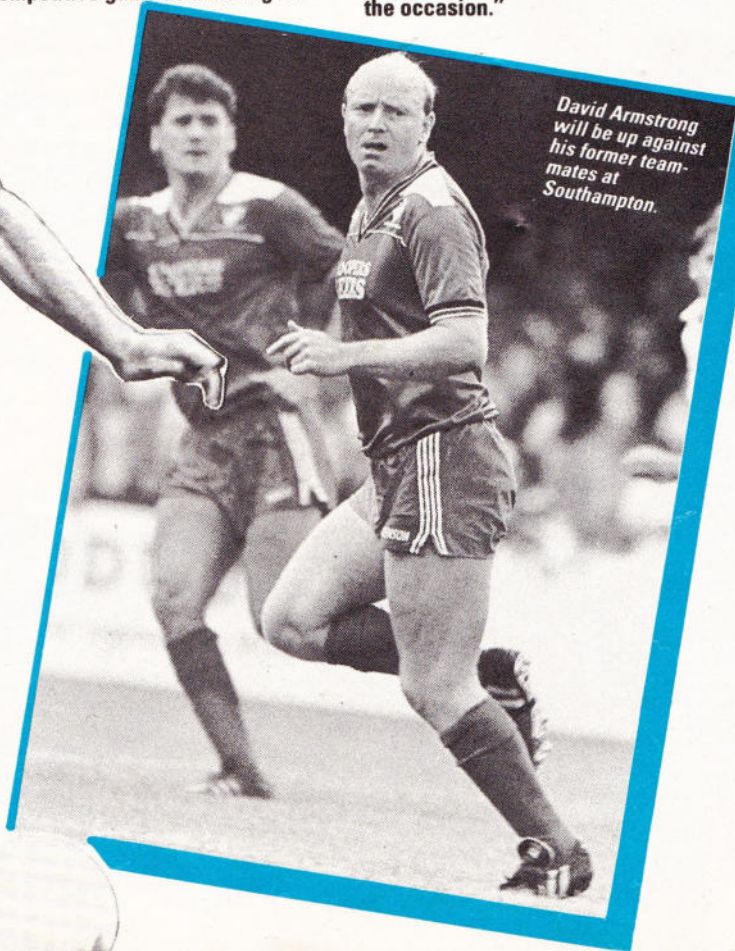
they are now making the most of their second chance.

"Although I've only been here a short while the players have responded well and we've got the season off to a good start," he says.

"Realistically we have no chance of beating Spurs, especially with the game being played over two legs, but Torquay United will make sure they enjoy the occasion."



Chelsea striker Kerry Dixon is out to score against his old club Reading.



David Armstrong will be up against his former team-mates at Southampton.

## DRAW

Manchester City v Wolves  
Nottingham Forest v Hereford  
Reading v Chelsea  
Manchester United v Hull  
Bury v Sheffield United  
Doncaster v Arsenal  
Wigan v Luton  
Crewe or Shrewsbury v  
Sheffield Wednesday  
Leeds v York  
Blackburn v Liverpool  
Stoke v Gillingham  
Fulham v Bradford  
Swindon v Portsmouth  
Crystal Palace v Newport  
Bournemouth v Southampton  
Rochdale v Wimbledon  
Middlesbrough v Aston Villa  
QPR v Millwall  
Barnsley v West Ham  
Blackpool v Newcastle  
Leicester v Scunthorpe  
Southend v Derby  
Everton v Rotherham  
Burnley v Norwich  
Darlington v Watford  
Oxford v Mansfield  
Torquay v Tottenham  
Cambridge v Coventry  
Ipswich v Northampton  
Carlisle v Oldham  
Charlton v Walsall  
Peterborough v Plymouth

*\*Second legs to be played  
week beginning October 5.*

Just as Knowles is set to return to his old stomping ground so the Second Round draw has given others the chance of facing old allies.

Two First Division strikers, Kerry Dixon of Chelsea and Norwich City's Wayne Biggins, are set to return to lower division sides Reading and Burnley respectively, where their goalscoring prowess first caught the eye.

On the South Coast, David Armstrong takes the opposite route with his new Bournemouth team-mates. The former England midfielder makes the short journey along the coast to Southampton, the club who released him on a free transfer.

## Testing

Littlewoods Cup holders Arsenal have a testing trip to Third Division Doncaster Rovers who are managed by Dave Cusack, the former Millwall defender who spent two and a half years under Gunners boss George Graham.

And Luton Town will also be renewing old acquaintances, this time with visiting supporters. Wigan Athletic fans will be the first visitors to be admitted to the Kenilworth Road ground since the end of the 1985-86 season.

Luton's refusal to allow away fans into their ground resulted in The Hatters' expulsion from the Littlewoods Cup last season.



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P R E S S   F O R   A C T I O N





## Shootview

# Tragic for Nick

**C**HARLIE Nicholas has our sympathy after finally admitting that he made the wrong move when joining Arsenal from Celtic.

But what makes this story even more tragic is that the decision to sign for The Gunners in 1983 appeared to be out of his hands.

Charlie, after scoring 50 goals in his last season with Celtic, was all set to sign for Liverpool.

But his then agent was pinned down by a Fleet Street Sports Editor and almost brainwashed into believing London needed a new superstar.

The next day the deal was struck at Highbury.

Better luck next time, Charlie!

## Good and bad

**W**HAT a cracking start to the Football League Centenary season.

Liverpool, Manchester United, Nottingham Forest, QPR, Chelsea and Tottenham are just six clubs exciting the fans and setting the pace.

Yet, on an afternoon when Chelsea fought back from 3-1 down to beat Forest 4-3, Luton rattled in five at Oxford, Palace hit Birmingham for six at St. Andrews and goal-happy Gillingham hammered Chesterfield 10-0, two players did themselves and the game no credit.

Everton's Pat Van den Hauwe admitted punching Tottenham's Nico Claesen and I watched Liverpool's Ronnie Whelan knock West Ham defender Tommy McLean senseless with his elbow.

The PFA must act to censor their own members who threaten to damage the game.

Players must set the right example if we are to bring peace to our terraces and get back into Europe.

## Thanks, Ron

**S**PARE a thought for Ron Saunders, recently sacked by West Brom.

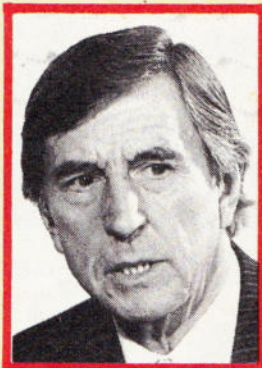
After devoting his life to the game and guiding Aston Villa to League Cup and European Cup honours he is now out of a job.

Ron's hinted he may retire. That will please some people he's upset along the way.

But let's not forget that he did bring us many happy moments to enjoy.

# The Editor

## Ted tells all!



**T**ED Croker, General Secretary of the Football Association, reveals a fascinating insight into one of the most important jobs in the game in his autobiography "The First Voice You Will Hear Is ..."

Why the strange title?

Well, every time the draw for the FA Cup is made live on BBC radio, the announcer tells millions of listeners: "The first voice you will hear is that of Ted Croker, the Secretary of the Football Association."

In his book, published by Collins Willow at £9.95, Ted Croker (left) also reveals how Ron Greenwood "resigned" on the plane coming back from England's victory over Hungary in the World Cup qualifier in 1981.

By the time the plane landed at Luton, the England players had persuaded him to change his mind. Ron then led the squad to the World Cup Finals the following year.

## England star Dorigo - thanks to SHOOT

**T**ony Dorigo's chances of adding to his England Under-21 honours seem to have heightened after a highly promising first few months with Chelsea.

And Tony (below) is giving SHOOT some of the credit!

The Australian-born defender says: "I read SHOOT regularly back home in Melbourne to keep track of events in British football."

"And when I wrote to English clubs to ask for a trial I got their addresses from adverts in SHOOT."

It proved just the job as Tony, who shared with his parents the cost of his fare to Britain, was accepted by Aston Villa.

He's come a long way since then, yet I predict there's an awful lot of mileage in him yet.

And Tony's still a regular SHOOT reader!

## PEN PAL

Medissa Jacobs, aged 15, would like to hear from Watford fans. Write to 33 Herga Court, Sudbury Hill, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex HA1 3RS.

● **Enda Fahey, Rathbone, Ardahn, Co. Galway, Eire** has Panini Football and Mexico 86 stickers to swap.

## A word with Waddle

**D**avid Zackon, of Sedgcombe Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex has written to tell me about his claim to fame.

"I play for my school team. Last season my friend's dad brought along Chris Waddle to watch us play."

"Our team won 6-1 and I scored a hat-trick. After the game Chris had a word with all the team and with me in particular."

"It is a moment I'll always treasure."

● Any more claims to fame? Write and let me know if you've met any famous players, or sporting stars.

## 'Non-League' Club Call

**N**ewly promoted Fisher Athletic are introducing a 24-hour 'non-League' telephone information line. The tape will include interviews, news and results and will feature the GM Vauxhall Conference each Monday.

Tony Incenzo, editor of the Pyramid Magazine, will operate the telephone service and calls will be charged at 38p per unit at peak times and 25p per unit during evenings and weekends.

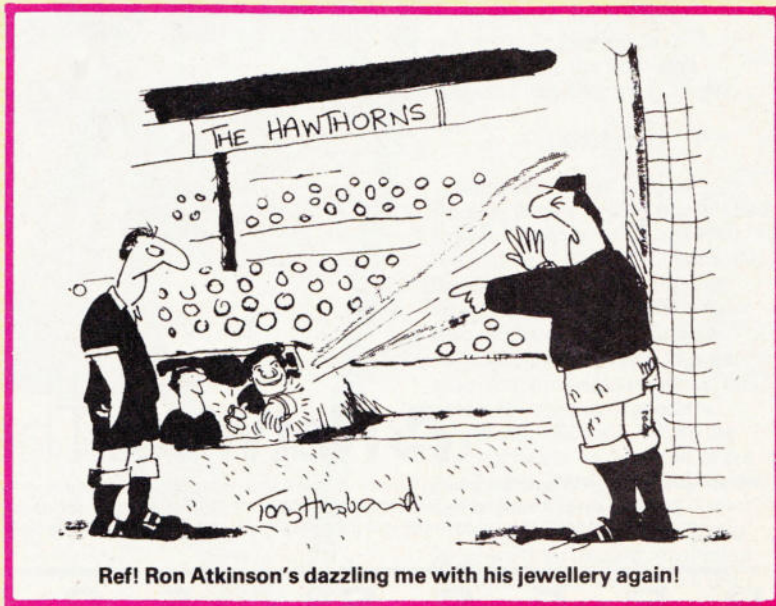
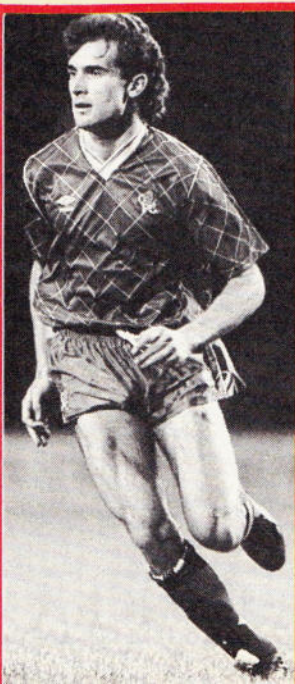
Non-League Club Call is available on 0898-121156.

## FREE-KICK CONFUSION

**A** lot of people get a bit confused between direct and indirect free-kicks, including 13-year-old Jonathan Butcher of Grafton Road, Acton, London.

Basically, a goal can be scored direct from the former; while, from the latter, a goal can only be scored if the ball has been played, or touched by, another player before going into the net.

The referee signals an indirect free-kick (for offences such as obstruction) by raising his arm above his head; keeping it in that position until the kick has been taken, and retaining it until the ball has been played, or touched by, another player, or goes out of play.



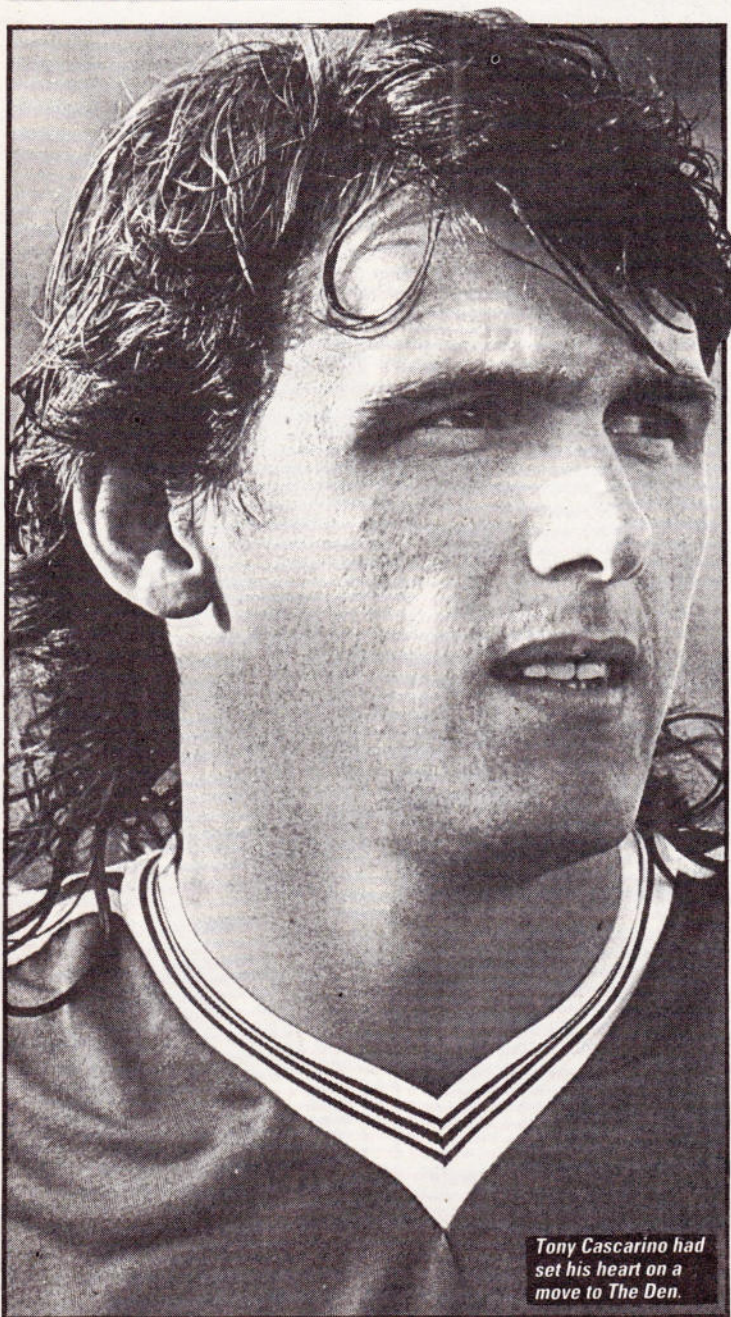
Ref! Ron Atkinson's dazzling me with his jewellery again!



# Lions attack



## 'Cascarino adds strike power' Docherty



Tony Cascarino had set his heart on a move to The Den.

**M**ILLWALL are still the only London side never to have played in the First Division.

But this season they have their best chance yet of losing that unwanted record.

Lions boss John Docherty spent half a million pounds to bring five new faces to The Den during the summer and his side's early season form seems to be proving that it was money well spent.

"There is a lot of ambition and a desire to do well within this club," says Docherty. "We are confident of having a successful season."

"Our fans have suffered over the years but we are aiming to put that right this year."

The board at Millwall have shown their faith in Docherty by making money available and with that capital he has injected new life into the Dockland club.

The arrival of George Lawrence (Southampton), Steve Wood (Reading), Wesley Reid (Arsenal) and Kevin O'Callaghan (Portsmouth) all whetted the appetite of the footballing public in South London, but the biggest coup was the capture of Republic of Ireland international striker Tony Cascarino from Gillingham.

### 'Signings'

"Tony was one of the easiest signings I've ever made," reveals Docherty.

"He simply wanted to come and play for Millwall. At the eleventh hour there were bids for his signature from Aston Villa and Ipswich but he had made up his mind."

Cascarino's commitment to his new club is another indication of the belief in Docherty's ability to take Millwall into the top flight. But the new confidence at The Den has not just come about because of Cascarino's arrival.

"Last year we were very prudent," explains Docherty.

"We cut the squad down and persevered with a young side who learned a great deal as a result."

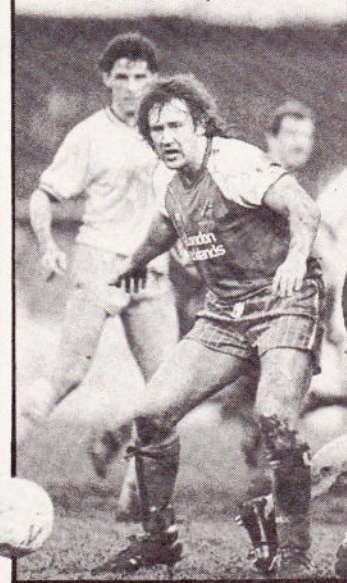
The only major signing we made was Terry Hurlock last March and even that was in preparation for this season.

"Last term we were a very hard side to beat. Now that we have added more strike power hopefully we will be able to carry the game to other sides more."

Millwall chairman Reg Burr has pledged more money if necessary. "If you are as serious about promotion as we are then you have to back it all the way. If the manager requires another signing then the money is there," he says.

"The atmosphere at the club is terrific and our gates are improving all the time."

Millwall's experienced midfield ace Terry Hurlock.





# Chapman the

## Snubbed Sheffield Wednesday strike back

**L**ee Chapman admits Sheffield Wednesday might have to kill a myth before they begin to put right the club's disastrous start to the season.

Chapman has watched in despair as player after player has turned down the chance to join the Yorkshire giants.

The list includes Mark Wright, Chris Fairclough, Graeme Hogg and David Armstrong, and Chapman reveals: "I've heard rumours that these players don't fancy our training methods.

"To be honest I can't say if that is true because I don't know the lads concerned.

"But stories do circulate around football and my message is that our training isn't as punishing as everyone thinks."

Wednesday were reputed to be one of the fittest sides in the First Division after they won promotion in 1984.

Boss Howard Wilkinson dragged them on lung-bursting cross country runs and devised training schedules that would have had Daley Thompson gasping for air.

But Chapman says: "It's not as tough as it was when I first arrived at the club three years ago. The training then was very strenuous, but we don't go on many long runs now.

### Tougher

"It is true we devote many hours to training but most of it is on a pitch with a ball. It's tougher mentally than it is physically."

Wilkinson has recently splashed out £140,000 on Spurs winger Tony Galvin, £275,000 on Sunderland's Mark Proctor and £150,000 for Rangers' Colin West, but his failure to land a top class defender has been one of the reasons why early results have gone against Wednesday.

Chapman adds: "The boss let go four or five players who played quite a lot of games for us last season and hasn't been able to replace them as quickly as he would have liked.

"We miss Paul Hart in particular - an experienced old head who can calm things down at important times. The squad is at a bare minimum."

Chapman reveals confidence has been sagging ever since the club's opening day defeat at Chelsea.

"From that point things have gone from bad to worse and now we are desperately trying to put it right."

Chapman, who scored 22 goals last season - his best ever - has still managed to get among the goals. But Wednesday's modest start has affected his attacking partner David Hirst.

Says Chapman: "During a few of our recent games the Hillsborough fans have been getting restless and that sort of thing can get through to youngsters like Dave. It can do them a lot of harm, in fact.

"I keep trying to give him all the encouragement I can and this is where a Paul Hart figure would come in handy. I remember my early days at Stoke when we were continually fighting against relegation and Denis Smith, now Sunderland's manager, was a fantastic bloke to turn to for help.

"Colin West's arrival has given us quite a few attacking options and I'm hoping we can strike up a good understanding as quickly as possible.

"Although things didn't work

out for him at Rangers, he's still a good striker with a fine record. But don't write off David Hirst. He's still in contention."

Four defeats from Wednesday's first five matches has even led to speculation of Wilkinson losing his job.

Chapman rules out the possibility, saying: "The boss has been quoted in the papers as saying his job is on the line but he said that with tongue in cheek.

"He's got no intention of chucking in the towel and I don't think he'll get the sack. We've not got that type of Board at Wednesday.

"The boss signed a five-year contract last season and I'd say the players are in more danger than him."

Chapman scored on the opening day at Chelsea. But defeat started a crisis in confidence at Wednesday.



**NO GO**  
- Wright



**NO GO**  
- Fairclough



**NO GO**  
- Hogg





# kills myth







MANCHESTER UNITED 0898 12 11 61

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SUNDERLAND 0898 12 11 40

*"There were two second division matches last night, both in the second division."*

BRIAN MOORE

*"Newport 0, Wrexham 1. Well done the Welsh there!"*

SPORT ON 2

*"Ian Rush. Deadly ten times out of ten. But that wasn't one of them."*

PETER JONES

OXFORD UNITED 0898 12 11 72

*"Numero Eins – as they say in Germany."*

PETER JONES

LEEDS UNITED 0898 12 11 80

*"Well Kerry, you're 19 and you're a lot older than a lot of people younger than yourself."*

BOBBY MOORE

*"Oh, he had an eternity to play that ball but he took too long over it."*

MARTIN TYLER

SOUTHAMPTON 0898 12 11 78

*"Everything in our favour was against us."*

DANNY BLANCHFLOWER

*"We have been saying this, both pre-season and before the season started."*

LEN ASHURST

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*"Mabbutt has now played seven consecutive games for England. This is the seventh."*

MARTIN TYLER

*"Hodge scored for Forest after only 22 seconds, totally against the run of play."*

PETER LORENZO

*"It slid away from his left boot which was poised with the trigger cocked."*

BARRY DAVIES

*"We've got nothing to lose, and there's no point losing this game."*

BOBBY ROBSON

*"Believe it or not, goals can change a game."*

MIKE CHANNON

*"Despite the rain it's still raining here at Old Trafford."*

JIMMY HILL

*"Yes, Woodcock would have scored but his shot was just too perfect."*

RON ATKINSON

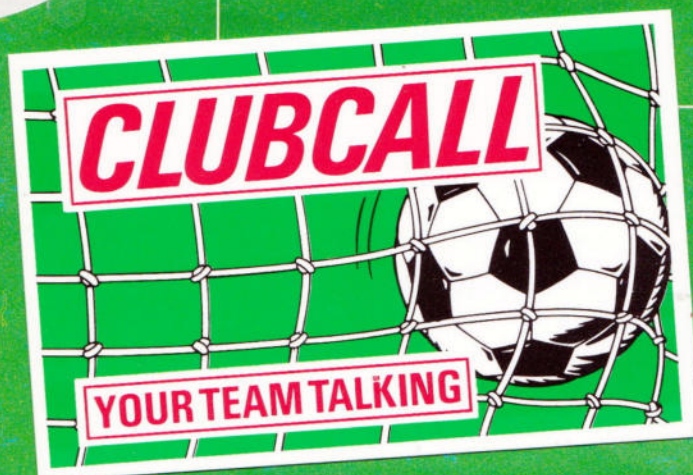
*"Portsmouth are at Huddersfield, which is always away."*

JIMMY GREAVES

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Roy Dalley goes

# WORLD WIDE

## Thorsvedt for Arsenal

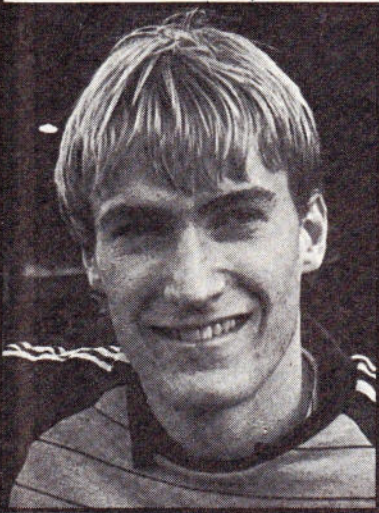
**A**rsenal boss George Graham has switched his sights to the Continent in search of a goalkeeper.

After failing to land David Seaman from QPR he sent a scout to watch Erik Thorsvedt keep a clean sheet for Norway in a recent international against Sweden.

And now he is weighing up the possibility of making a bid for the 25-year-old goalkeeper (left) who also interested rivals Tottenham.

Thorsvedt would come relatively cheaply – he cannot gain a first team place at Borussia Moenchengladbach.

But if the clubs cannot agree on a fee Graham is likely to switch his attention to Bayern Munich's Jean-Marie Pfaff.



**M**uch-travelled striker Gordon Smith, whose goals helped Austrians Admira Wacker qualify for Europe this season, has joined Swiss club Basle as player coach.

Smith has also played for Kilmarnock, Rangers, Brighton and Manchester City, and was a target for Motherwell and Airdrie before accepting a lucrative one-year deal with Basle.

## Celtic no-go

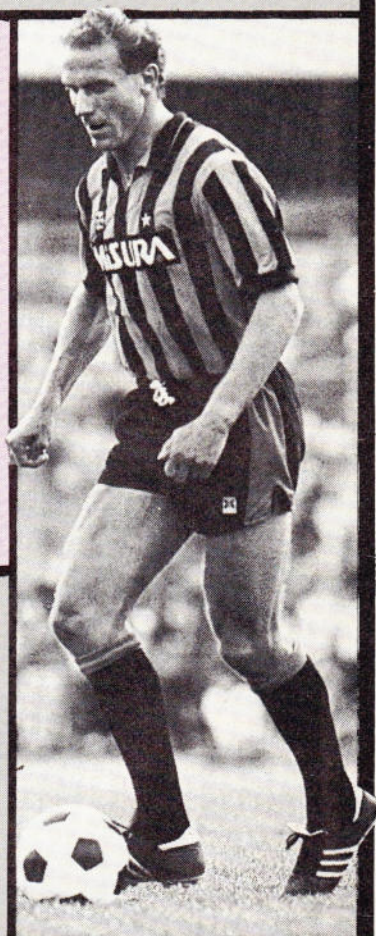
**C**eltic have been snubbed by former Shamrock Rovers striker Alan Campbell, who was offered a more attractive contract by Belgian Second Division club Berchem. Campbell has been playing in Spain for Santander and Logrones.

## Karl wants to go home

**K**arl-Heinz Rummenigge has sounded out the possibility of a return to Bayern Munich once he recovers from an Achilles tendon operation.

The 32-year-old striker (right) has been edged out at Inter Milan with the signing of Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo.

The West German Champions have responded cautiously. Before offering their former star a contract he would have to train with them for six weeks and pass a strict medical.



## Burns burned up?

**W**hisper it softly, but Swedish club IF Elfsborg have explained why they turned away 34-year-old former Scotland international Kenny Burns after a trial.

"He's too fat and too slow," they said.

Elfsborg signed Hungarian international Gabor Szanto from Ferencvaros instead.

## Jan's no Cooperman!

**F**IFA referee Jan Keizer, who took charge of Scotland's recent international against Hungary, has been banned from officiating in his native Holland.

The Dutch FA's 'Coopertest' for referees requires them to run at least 2,800 metres in 12 minutes.

Keizer, 47, failed the test, and won't be employed again by the Dutch FA until he passes.

## VALDANO MYSTERY

**R**eal Madrid have launched an investigation to discover why their Argentine international striker Jorge Valdano, recovering from hepatitis, was not registered with UEFA.

Now Valdano isn't eligible to play for the Spanish Champions in Europe this season before the Quarter-Final stages of the European Cup.



## Rossi snub

**P**aolo Rossi, the former Italian hero, could be forced into retirement at the age of 31.

Centre-forward Rossi's goals launched Italy to their 1982 World Cup triumph, but since then he has been dogged by knee injuries and has not had his contract renewed by Verona.

Spanish club Malaga were interested in signing Rossi, but he rejected their overtures and would prefer to stay in his home country.



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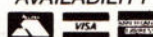
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**CRUNCH.** Life is not so bootiful for Manchester United skipper Bryan Robson as Southampton defender Kevin Bond leaves his mark and the Old Trafford star suffers a broken nose in their 2-2 draw at The Dell.

2

**HELP!** A Speedie sandwich as Norwich defenders Steve Bruce and Ian Butterworth and striker Kevin Drinkell combine to thwart the Coventry forward in The Canaries' 3-1 victory at Carrow Road.

3

**OUCH.** No early season compassion as Tottenham's Gary Stevens feels the full weight of Coventry hard man Lloyd McGrath's tackle in City's 2-1 win at Highfield Road.

4

**SPLAT.** They shall not pass is Nottingham Forest defender Stuart Pearce's motto as he reduces Everton's Peter Reid to ground level during their goalless draw at the City Ground.





# Poacher Power

## 'Ten goals will do me'

**P**AUL POWER was the answer to Everton manager Howard Kendall's dreams last season. Now he's aiming to give Kendall's successor Colin Harvey a few sleepless nights.

The Blues' answer to Peter Pan began this season where he finished last – plugging the gaps in Everton's injury-wrecked line-up.

But when the dust finally settles in the treatment room and the queues for physio John Clinkard stop resembling those for Cup Final tickets, Power aims to stay just where he is – in the first team.

"I know it will be difficult to keep my place," says Power, 34 in October. "But I'm going to do all I can to make it hard for the manager to change the team."

"Last year the supporters voted

me Player of the Year and if I can repeat that consistency I've a good chance."

Power has alternated between left-back and the left side of midfield but he admits: "I have to be honest and say I don't expect to stay in midfield if the manager has Trevor Steven, Peter Reid, Ian Snodin and Kevin Sheedy available."

### Battling

That leaves Power battling with Neil Pointon and Pat Van den Hauwe for the number three spot – if Harvey ever gets to choose from a full squad.

Power's smart covering, sharp tackling and stirring wing-raids are well-known features of his game but he has now added a new string to his bow – that of goalpoacher.

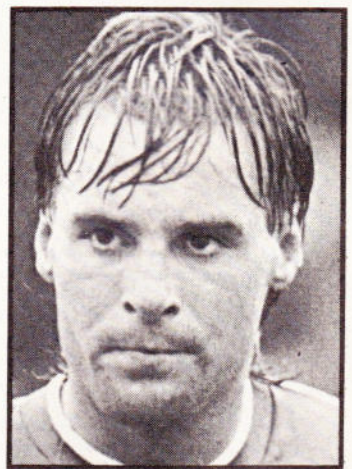
He was first off the mark at Goodison as Everton defeated Norwich in their opening game as defending Champions and followed that with the consolation in the Blues' 6-1 drubbing at Real Madrid.

"I'm aiming to score ten goals," reveals Power, who says of Real: "They are the best side I've ever seen. If they keep that up it will be hard for Gary Lineker's Barcelona to stop them in Spain."

At the moment Power is more bothered about making sure Everton retain their title but what of his long-term future?

"I feel fit enough to compete in the First Division for some time so I am sure I could do well in the lower divisions and, if a player-manager role came up, I would be interested," he says.

"But if there is a chance to stay at Everton at the end of the season I'll be delighted."



*Left-back Pat Van den Hauwe is probably the biggest threat to Power's first team future at Everton.*

Judging by the way things have gone so far it's Harvey who'll be delighted if Power stays, even if it does mean more long nights agonising over his team-sheet.



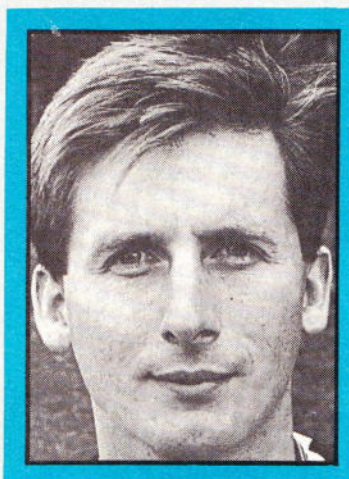
# Mirandinha v Beardsley in Sunday's Big Box game

**M**irandinha faces the supreme test this Sunday when Newcastle take on the might of Liverpool.

The Brazilian's performance will be closely monitored by the whole of British football as the game goes out live on television from St James' Park.

There will also be the extra pressure of a comparison with Liverpool's record signing Peter Beardsley, the man he has succeeded on Tyneside.

But one man is already certain that the South American star dubbed 'Mira' by his team-mates will do even more than survive this fascinating challenge of



GLENN ROEDER

meeting Liverpool and Beardsley. "He will relish the occasion," says Newcastle skipper Glenn Roeder. "He knows a lot about English football because of its coverage in Brazil and is aware of Liverpool's reputation."

"It will be a pressure game, particularly since it's on television, but Mirandinha will thrive on the atmosphere."

There are still a large number of Tyneside fans who find it impossible to forgive Beardsley for leaving the club, despite his protest that he was willing to stay and see out the remaining year of his contract.

# MIRA, MIRA ON THE BALL!



Mirandinha - the new idol on Tyneside.



Beardsley faces a hostile reception from the Newcastle fans on Sunday.

It seems likely that the England international will be given a rough ride by the crowd which once adored him and even Roeder admits: "Peter could get a mixed reception."

"I feel the controversy over the last two or three weeks of the transfer didn't do him any favours as far as the fans are concerned."

"The United players," says Roeder, "are now concerned only with Newcastle United and the job of helping Mirandinha settle."

"He looks very sharp," says the United skipper. "In fact there are a few similarities between 'Mira' and Peter."

"They are about the same height, have pace off the mark, a good first touch and are both very difficult to knock off the ball."

Roeder also likens Mirandinha to another England international - Clive Allen - when he describes the shooting power which millions will witness against Liverpool.

"Mirandinha doesn't wait to see the whites of your eyes - he just shoots from every angle and distance with tremendous power," he says.

"I watched him closely in training the other day and noticed that he doesn't seem to mind when he misses the target."

"Like Clive Allen, he doesn't curse himself and apologise to his team-mates. He simply gets on with the job of waiting for the next chance."

So the stage is set for Newcastle v Liverpool ... Mirandinha v Beardsley. "It should be a fascinating match," says Roeder. "Let's hope it has the right result for us."

**Now turn the page for target man's exclusive verdict**





# 999

Milburn

Macdonald

Mirandinha

# Devastating pocket dyna

**N**ewcastle's travelling army of loyal fans gave Mirandinha, the £1 million boy from Brazil, a rapturous welcome when he made his debut in the 1-1 draw at Norwich. What better occasion for our very own soccer spy, Target Man, to make his first appearance of the new season...

## Heading

Definitely not his strongest point. Lack of height is going to prove quite a handicap in this department and with big central defenders part and parcel of the English game, he is unlikely to be given many opportunities to demonstrate his aerial ability. At Norwich he got no change out of the dominant Steve Bruce and Newcastle's policy must be to keep it on the deck.

## Shooting

He brought Norwich 'keeper Bryan Gunn to his knees with two speculative efforts, both of them hit with venom on the run but lacking in direction. There was a huge gasp from the Geordie contingent as Mirandinha shaped up to try his luck with a free-kick 40 yards out – and jeers from the home support as his effort flew high and wide of the target. As the game wore on he seemed to shoot from even more impossible angles, perhaps in frustration as he was seeing so little of the ball.

## Control

Displayed a stunning first touch, killing the ball when it was fired at him with speed and from an assortment of angles. Despite the close attention of the Norwich defenders he invariably managed to turn and head for goal with the ball at his feet, the sort of skill sure to reap rewards for Newcastle.







## Positioning

Possesses a razor-sharp soccer brain. A favourite play seems to be dropping off the opposing back four, collecting the ball and using his electric pace to take the most direct route to goal. A couple of near-post runs were almost productive and when he shook off his marker in the box he wanted an extra second that Norwich skipper Steve Bruce was quick to deny him.

## Passing

Showed excellent awareness considering it was his first game. Seemed to enjoy the close one-two passing most but on two occasions he set Newcastle on their way with sweeping passes into space on the flanks. Bound to improve in this area as he fits into United's pattern of play.

## Tackling

He may only be a featherweight compared to some of his colleagues but he's still tenacious and never shirked a challenge. He was quick to chase across to either flank and block the forward runs of the Norwich full-backs and on this display the physical aspects of the English game hold no fears for a player who puts the emphasis on skill but still knows how to look after himself.

## Overall

A debut that left us in no doubt that Mirandinha is a naturally gifted player, although it was disappointing that he failed to sustain an excellent first-half display. After the interval he was hardly in the game, a sure sign that it will take him time to acclimatise to a faster, more physical brand of football than he has previously experienced.

## VERDICT

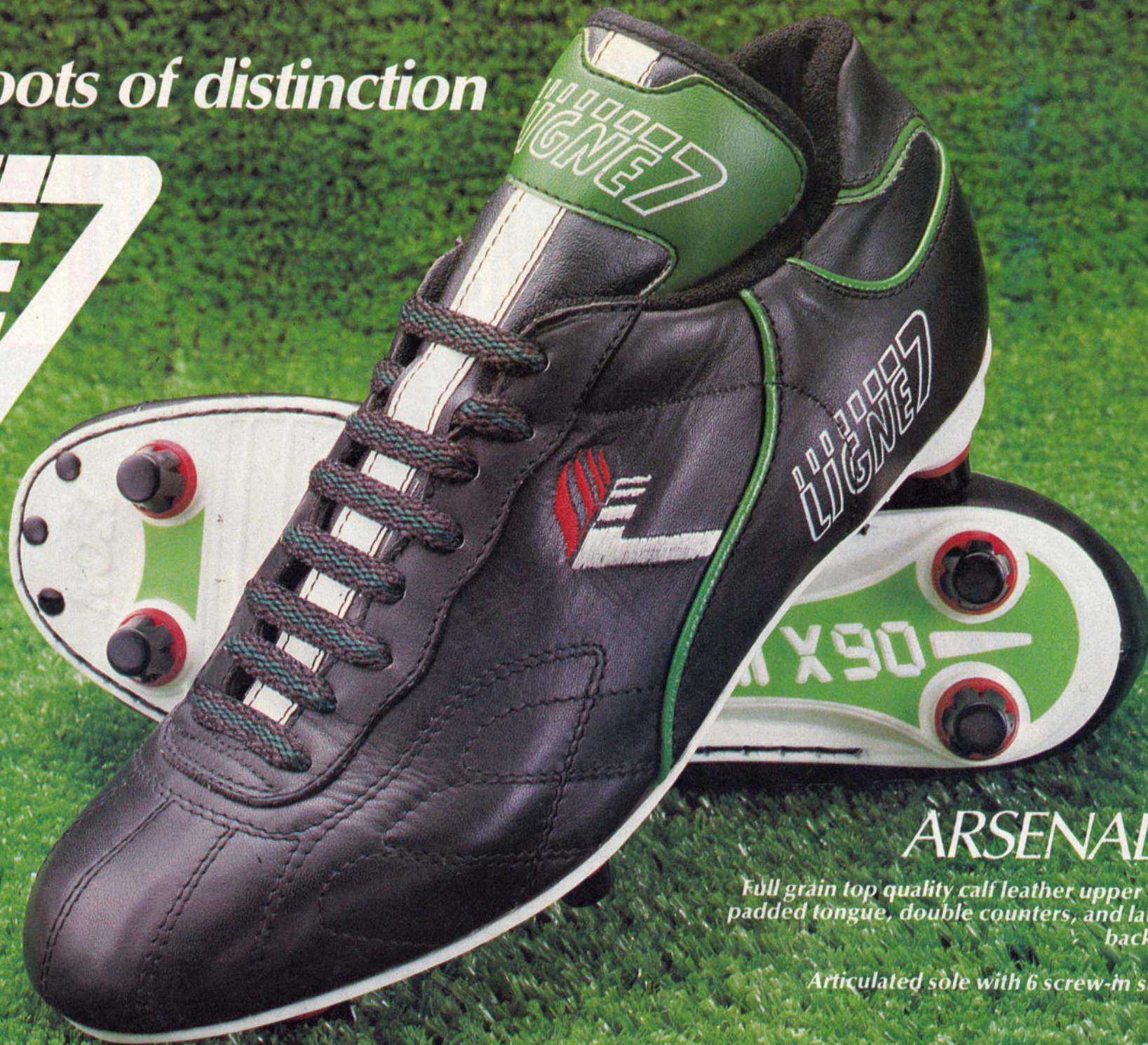
He produced sufficient glimpses of Brazilian magic to prove he's going to be a welcome addition to the English game. His main assets are a devastating turn of speed, tremendous close control and the ability to take opponents on. Add them together and you have a pocket dynamo that First Division defenders will find quite a handful. At long last, it seems the marvellous Geordie supporters have a number nine they'll agree is fit to pull on the famous shirt worn by Jackie Milburn and Malcolm Macdonald.



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**SURREY**



# You ain't seen

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT LIVERPOOL

**J**ohn Aldridge has fired a frightening warning shot to the rest of the First Division by predicting that Liverpool can get **EVEN BETTER**.

Liverpool's £750,000 striker surveys the club's early season form which included away victories against both of last season's domestic Cup winners.

And he explains: "The new players, of which I could include myself, are still only getting used to each other, and it stands to reason that we could be even more effective once we are a gelled unit."

"Peter Beardsley and John Barnes are already looking good. They have given us so many options and it must be difficult for opposing defenders to predict what's going to happen next."

The options are numerous for boss Kenny Dalglish, who might never again feel the necessity to leave the bench on matchdays.

Aldridge is threatening to continue to score the glut of goals he scored for Newport and Oxford that earned him his dream move to Merseyside.

Beardsley, described by one critic as Dalglish on turbocharge, proved against FA Cup holders Coventry that he will score goals while Barnes and Craig Johnston can provide ammunition from the wings.

"Oxford played with two wingers under both Jim Smith and Maurice Evans during my days at the Manor Ground and that definitely benefited me in my search for goals," says Aldridge.

"If I can get the same sort of service at Liverpool I don't see any reason why I shouldn't keep up the ratio of goals I achieved with my other two clubs."

Aldridge, 141 goals in 284 League games before joining the Anfield club last January, adds: "When Ian Rush was at the club

the ball tended to go through the middle for him to hare onto but now we've got so many options it's untrue.

"Quite apart from the players I've already mentioned, Steve McMahon can't half whack a ball, Ronnie Whelan specialises in goals from outside the penalty box and Paul Walsh will also be determined to weigh in to improve his claims on a place.

And the final proof of Liverpool's goalscoring power in all departments comes with a look at full-back Steve Nicol's record this season.

### Elevated

Three goals from Liverpool's opening three games elevated him above the club's star studded forward line as their leading scorer in the early weeks.

And Aldridge, who hit his third goal of the season at West Ham, adds: "Steve has played extremely well. Quite apart from his goals he has linked up well with John Barnes on the left and the pair of them are forming a nice little partnership.

"The whole thing is quite exciting and we couldn't have asked for a better start, especially with home games in hand, but we're not going to get carried away."

That's not Liverpool's style. But what style they've shown already this season!

# Aldridge

# fires

# warning

# shot



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Coach: Ronnie Moran

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Division Two Champions 1893-94,

1895-96, 1904-05, 1961-62; FA Cup Winners 1965, 1974, 1986; League/Milk Cup winners 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984; European Cup Winners: 1976-77, 1977-78, 1980-81, 1983-84; UEFA Cup Winners: 1972-73, 1975-76; Super Cup Winners: 1978.



## Reds

## could kop

## the sewer

## bill



# nothing yet!

Aldridge was on target at Arsenal and warns there is more to come. **RIGHT:** Ronnie Whelan celebrates another Liverpool victory.



## Roving Ronnie

**P**lay anywhere man Ronnie Whelan has found himself in the thick of the action after fearing for his place when Liverpool splashed out £900,000 for John Barnes.

Republic of Ireland star Whelan, normally associated with a wide position on the left, admits: "I suppose it was natural to be a little worried when the club signed John."

"He's an out-and-out left sided player and I wondered whether I might be the one to stand down to accommodate him." Instead Whelan was switched to the

centre of midfield alongside Steve McMahon by boss Kenny Dalglish, and his early form is encouraging enough to suggest Jan Molby faces a battle for his place once he returns to full fitness.

Whelan says: "I've enjoyed playing in the middle. You tend to see a lot more of the ball and I could become quite accustomed to the role."

"But that's up to the boss - I'll play anywhere he wants me to," adds Whelan, who also performed in the left-back slot last season.



STEVE NICOL

**C**hief Executive Peter Robinson fears the postponement of the club's first three home games could cost Liverpool more than £100,000.

The fixtures against Charlton, Derby and Watford all had to be called off when a Victorian sewer collapsed beneath The Kop during the summer.

Reveals Robinson: "Having to reschedule those matches has probably cost us 30,000 paying customers."

"Under normal circumstances, our game against Charlton would have pulled in a much larger crowd than we got on Tuesday because it would have been our first home match of the season and the first appearance of our new signings."

"We had also budgeted for 38,000 for the Derby and Watford games, but now they are

Tuesday night games we'll probably only get somewhere in the region of 28,000."

Derby will now visit Anfield on September 29 and the Watford fixture has been rescheduled for December 1.

### 'Cost'

But that £100,000 figure doesn't even take into account the repair bill for the sewer.

"We don't know how much that's going to cost us," adds Robinson. "We're still waiting to hear from the council, who own the sewer."

"The club struck a very complicated legal agreement with them in 1906 which allowed us to build The Kop over their sewer, so at the moment we don't know how much of the cost of repairing the damage is our liability."



PETER ROBINSON

**Beardsley and Barnes blast - overleaf**



# CLUB SPOTLIGHT LIVERPOOL

**P**eter Beardsley goes back to Newcastle this Sunday determined to meet England manager Bobby Robson's demand for more goals.

The £1.9 million summer signing will come under the scrutiny of millions of live TV viewers eager to see if he is living up to his massive price tag.

The signs so far are good, but Robson says: "I've told Peter that he should be looking to score 15 to 20 goals a season for Liverpool."

## England Expects

The 26-year-old Beardsley scored just five times in his final season at St. James' Park, and that isn't good enough for his international chief.

"We all know what Peter can do outside the box, but if he can become a regular goalscorer as well, he will be a rare player indeed," adds Robson.

"No disrespect to Newcastle, but they are a team who are going to find it very difficult to win the League. Liverpool expect to win it, and playing at that high standard will advance Peter's career to the top level.

"It will be just the spur he needs to go from where he is now



## Bobby's watching Beardsley and Barnes

to a world class player."

And Robson believes that Liverpool's other summer signing, £900,000 John Barnes, will benefit even more from his move to Anfield.

"This is his chance to become more consistent. He hit the heights with Watford, but was a bit up-and-down. If you are a good player, which he is, you must not be inconsistent.

"This should be a very good move for John, because if he can't do it at Liverpool, he'll never do it anywhere and he must realise that."



### Professional staff 1987-88

Name	Previous club	Liverpool Gms	Gls				
<b>Goalkeepers</b>							
Bruce Grobbelaar	Vancouver Whitecaps	244	0	Jan Molby	Ajax	95	8
Mike Hooper	Wrexham	11	0	Brian Mooney	Home Farm	0	0
<b>Defenders</b>				Kevin MacDonald	Leicester	35	1
Gary Ablett	-	5	1	Steve McMahon	Aston Villa	63	11
Jim Beglin	Shamrock Rovers	64	2	Mark Seagraves	-	0	0
Gary Gillespie	Coventry	66	4	Nigel Spackman	Chelsea	13	0
Alan Hansen	Partick Thistle	361	7	John Wark	Ipswich	69	28
Mark Lawrenson	Brighton	227	11	Ronnie Whelan	Home Farm	202	37
Steve Nicol	Ayr United	109	17	<b>Forwards</b>			
Barry Venison	Sunderland	36	0	John Aldridge	Oxford	12	5
Alex Watson	-	0	0	John Barnes	Watford	3	0
<b>Midfielders</b>				Peter Beardsley	Newcastle	3	1
Ken de Mange	Home Farm	0	0	Kenny Dalglish	Celtic	351	118
Craig Johnston	Middlesbrough	162	25	Wayne Harrison	Oldham	0	0
				Paul Walsh	Luton	71	25



# A Question of Soccer...

“

... Liverpool under Bill Shankley had to be the greatest team ever. To be captain of that Liverpool side was like a dream come true for me. Every footballer dreams of a chance like that.

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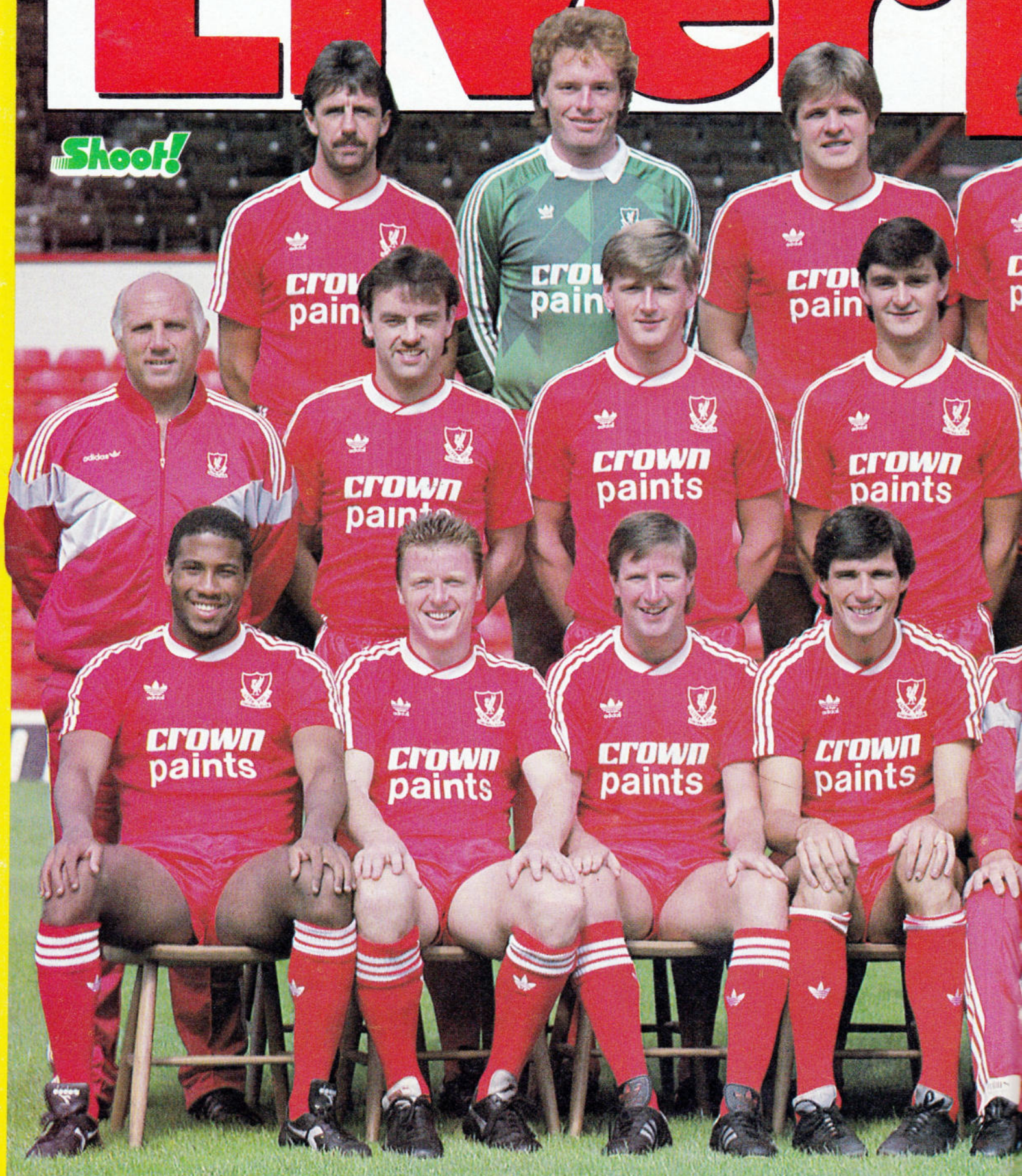
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pin-stripe logo. Safety studded PU  
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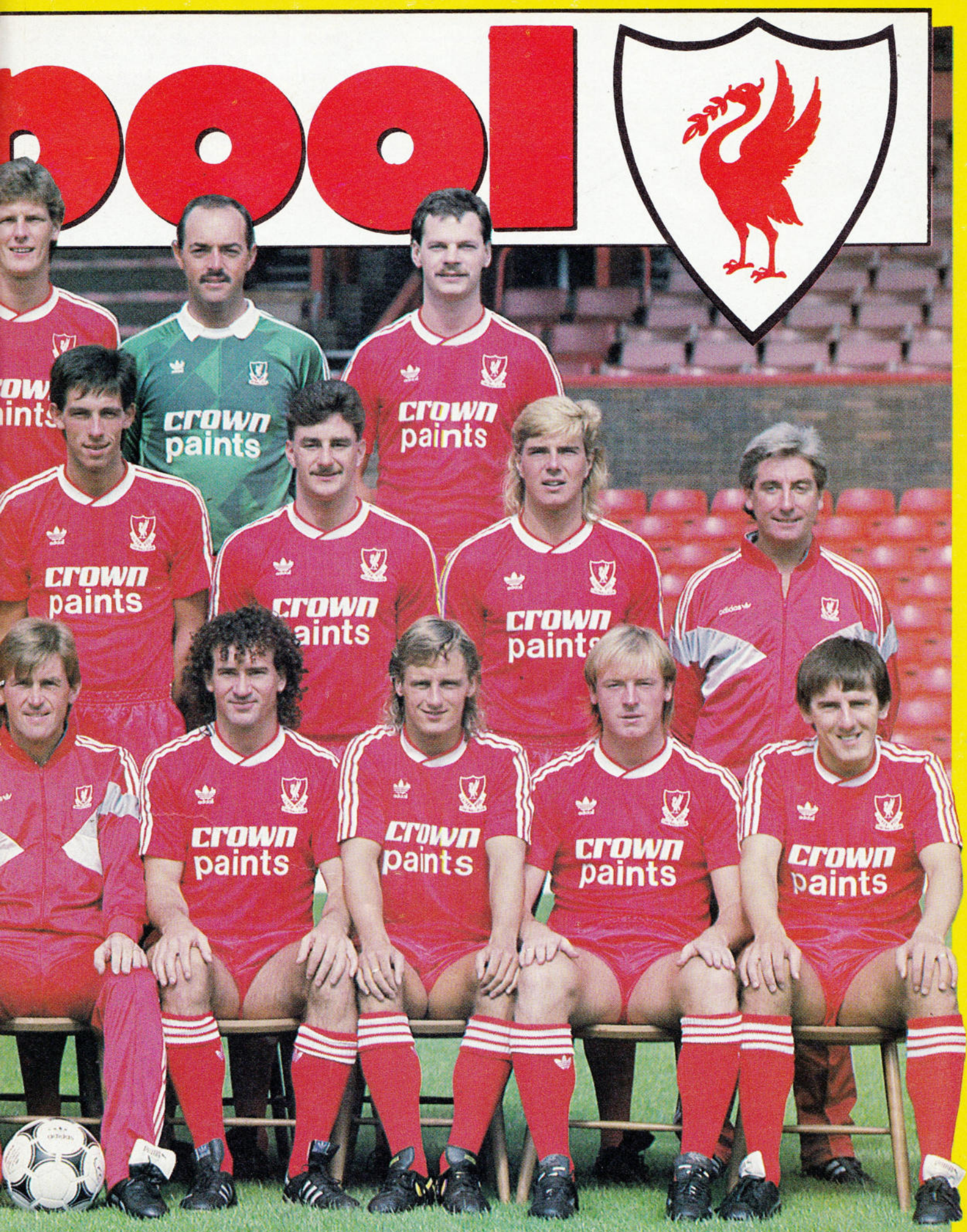
# Liverpool

**Shoot!**



BACK ROW (left to right): Mark Lawrenson, Mike Hooper, Jan  
MIDDLE ROW: Ronnie Moran (coach), John Wark, Nigel Spackman, Alan Irvine  
FRONT ROW: John Barnes, Steve Nicol, Ronnie Whelan, Alan Hansen, Kenny





Molby, Gary Gillespie, Bruce Grobbelaar, Kevin MacDonald.  
 (Goalkeeper, Dundee Utd), Gary Ablett, John Aldridge, Barry Venison, Roy Evans (coach).  
 Dalglish (manager), Craig Johnston, Paul Walsh, Steve McMahon, Peter Beardsley.



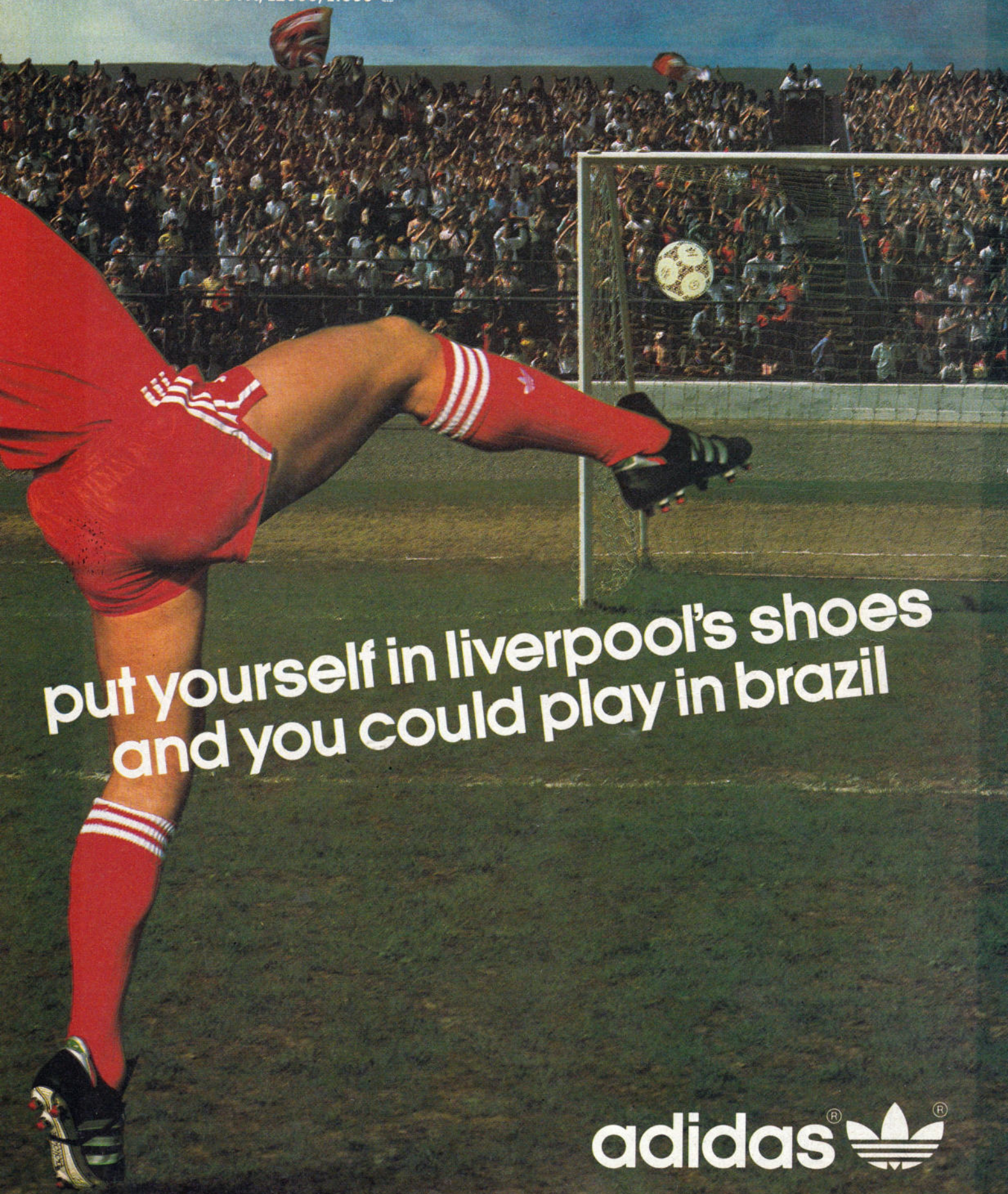
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# Quiz Special

# GOAL

Answer these questions on three hit men who have been bang on target this season.



**1** Trevor Steven fires home during Everton's 4-0 victory against who?

**2** Does Steven play on the right or left hand side of Everton's midfield?

**3** Can you name the former Ipswich defender shown in the picture and the beaten 'keeper?

**4** Which club did Steven leave to join Everton and did he represent them in the 1984 FA Cup Final against Watford?

Compiled by  
**STEVE PEARCE**

# GOAL



**1** Paul McGrath is shown scoring Manchester United's first goal against Watford in their 2-0 win. Did Brian McClair or Norman Whiteside score United's second?

**2** Is McGrath a Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland international?

**3** Two other international players are shown in the picture. Can you identify them and the countries they play for?

**4** A week later McGrath was on target again as The Reds beat which London club 3-1?

# GOAL

**1** Chelsea's Pat Nevin is shown scoring against Luton 'keeper Andy Dibble or Les Sealey in The Blues' 3-0 win?

**2** Nevin's goal was the second in a hat-trick for the Scotsman. True or false?

**3** Which Scottish club did Nevin leave to join Chelsea in 1983?

**4** Pat made his Scotland debut against Rumania in 1983, 1984, 1985 or 1986?

**Answers on page 44**

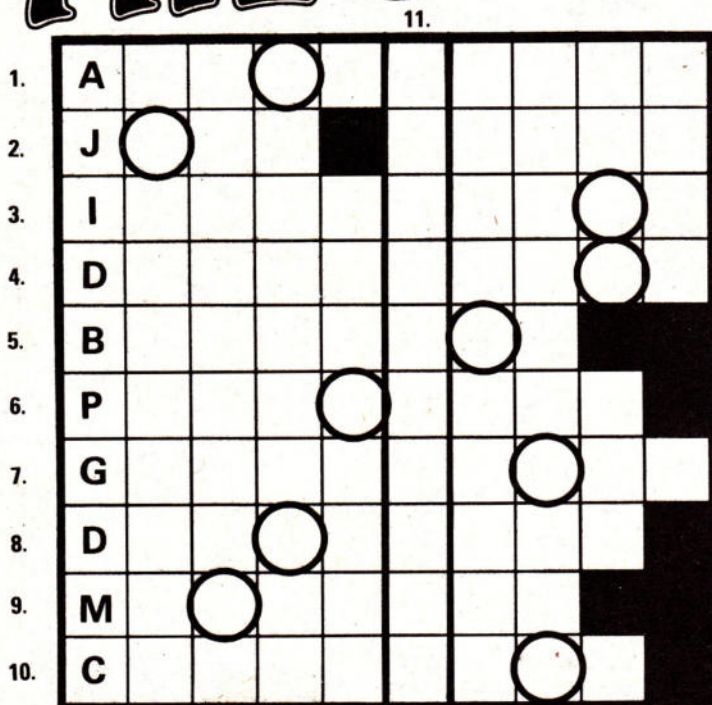
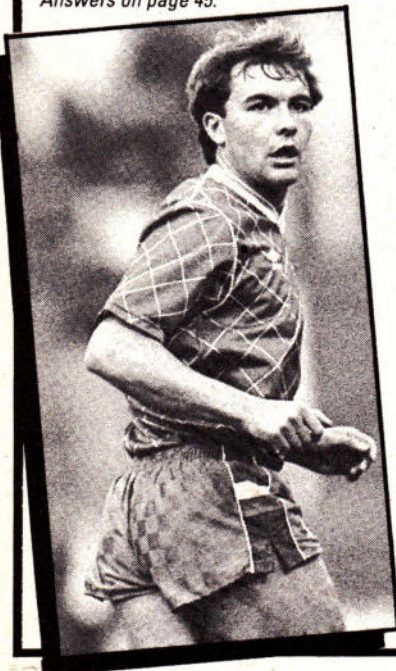




# FIND THE STAR

Place the answers to the eleven clues in the corresponding places in the square below. (1 to 10 Across & 11 Down).

When this is all completed the letters in the circled squares can be unjumbled to give the name of a Norwich City midfielder player. (4 & 6) Answers on page 45.



- (1) Liverpool defender. (4 & 6)
- (2) Arsenal goalkeeper. (4 & 5)
- (3) Manchester City striker. (4 & 6)
- (4) Chelsea defender. (left). (6 & 4)
- (5) Surname of Sheffield Wednesday striker. (8)
- (6) Arsenal midfielder. (4 & 5)
- (7) Oxford defender. (4 & 6)
- (8) Peter - Manchester United striker. (9)
- (9) Charlton Athletic defender. (4 & 4)
- (10) Glenn - Southampton midfielder. (9)
- (11) Everton utility man. (4 & 6)

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So get cracking... and good luck.



**G**ARY'S game normally sells for £14.95 and is available from all good toy and sports shops. If you have difficulty buying one send a stamped addressed envelope to Gremlin Board Games Ltd., Units 2/3, Holford Way, Holford, Birmingham B6 7AX.



## ...Data File on Gary...

**B**ORN Leicester, November 1960. Debut for Leicester City on 1st January, 1979 v Oldham. Scored his first goal v Notts County on 24th April, 1979. Made full England debut as a substitute v A in May, 1984.

Joined Everton a year later. Transferred to Barcelona in the

summer of 1986 for £2.8 million after winning the Footballer of the Year award and SHOOT/adidas Golden Shoe award for being the First Division's top scorer with B League goals.

Won another Golden Shoe for being top scorer in the 1986 World Cup Finals with C goals.

#### RULES:

All entries arriving by the closing date will be examined and the 50 prizes awarded to the senders of the nearest correct entries with age taken into account. The competition is open to readers in the UK, Channel Islands and Eire except the children of the employees of IPC Magazines Ltd., the printers of SHOOT, or anyone associated with the prizes. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into. The winners will be notified and the result published later in SHOOT.

## Gary Lineker competition

My answers are:

**A** \_\_\_\_\_ **B** \_\_\_\_\_ **C** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_



# Stuart Pearce

## Nottingham Forest

**B**orn in Shepherds Bush, April 24, 1962. An electrician playing part-time for non-League Wealdstone until he was signed for £25,000 by Coventry boss Bobby Gould in November, 1983. Spent two seasons at Highfield Road before being sold to Forest in a £450,000 double deal with Ian Butterworth. Played for England's Under-21s last November and was promoted to the senior team for the Rous Cup games against Brazil and Scotland.

**Does Brian Clough live up to his public image or is he different away from the spotlight?**

He's pretty much as you'd expect. We get along fine, but he does have a go at me when it's necessary.

**Do you feel sympathy for your fellow left-backs when they're up against Franz Carr?**

Definitely. I've faced Franz a few times in training and it's bloody hard work. The only way I know to stop him involves an awful lot of kicking!

**As a former electrician, do the rest of the team rely on you to do all their wiring?**

Some of them. At Forest I've helped out Steve Sutton, Neil Webb and Brian Rice. I don't charge them anything because they're mates.

**Were you responsible for any major catastrophes in your former job?**

Not really. But I did smash a few lights once when I was doing some work for my former Coventry team-mate Kirk Stephens.

**Who was the best player you faced in non-League football?**

There was a winger called Barry Howard who played for Altrincham who always gave me a tough time.

**Did you find the First Division tougher to adapt to than you imagined?**

No. I was very lucky because Bobby Gould threw me straight into his team and I managed to hang on to my place.

**Have you ever been sent-off?**

No, touch wood. I should have been once when I was playing for Wealdstone, but the referee thought it was a lad called Roy Davies and sent him off instead!

**Which of your two England games did you enjoy the most?**

Probably the Scotland match because I played better. Playing at Wembley was a great thrill, but Muller gave me a few anxious moments. I get nervous before every game, but I was particularly bad for Brazil and I was glad to be able to put things right against Scotland.

**What was the last concert you went to see?**

Spear Of Destiny at the Rock City, Nottingham. I went with young Terry Wilson and Steve Murray, who has since signed for Celtic.

**As a Shepherds Bush lad, did you ever go to the White City before they pulled it down?**

A couple of times, but I was never a regular. It's the same at Nottingham. I might pop along to the dog track on Tuesday night if there's nothing better to do, but I'm not a great gambler.

**Do you keep in touch with any of your former Coventry team-mates?**

I'm still good friends with Trevor Peake. It was great to see him winning at Wembley.

**What was the first record you ever bought?**

I think it was Space Oddity by David Bowie.

**If you could have a ticket for any sporting event in the world, what would it be?**

The Superbowl. I like watching the American football on Channel Four and the Superbowl must be a tremendous occasion.

**Who would you most like to be trapped in a lift with?**

Being stuck with The Stranglers would be an 'interesting' experience!



**Do you take any notice of the star ratings in the papers?**

I keep a scrapbook with a report on every match I play in. I do take a look at the ratings, but I don't lose any sleep over them.

**Which newspaper do you read?**

The Daily Express. It's not as sensational as some of the others.

**What was your most embarrassing moment in football?**

I'm embarrassed whenever I play badly, but my worst moment came during Brian Roberts' testimonial match a few years ago when Graham Withey and I put on false noses and dirty old mags and ran onto the pitch at



# On The SPOT



half-time to flash at Bobby Gould!

**player to follow you and Neil Webb into the England squad?**

There's not a lot to choose between Des Walker, Franz Carr and Nigel Clough. They must all have a good chance of England caps.





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# Trev's BLOCKBUSTERS



## Everton v Man. United

UNITED find points hard to come by at Goodison. They haven't even scored more than one goal there since Boxing Day, 1977 when they won 6-2.

Brian McClair and Viv Anderson have added much needed strength to a United side that has started off well.

McClair, whose goal against Chelsea recently was one of the best seen at Old Trafford for many years, has hit it off with Norman Whiteside.

Bryan Robson is enjoying a good run and Paul McGrath and Remi Moses are off in realising their potential.

There's no doubt United are looking much more potent in all departments and

Trevor Brooking selects his big matches of the day (Saturday, 19th September) and predicts the results of the First and Premier Division games. See if you can topple him ...

probably have their strongest side for years.

Everton, as usual, have a fairly heavy injury list.

They did well to overcome the same problems last season to win the title and could do so again.

The main headache for Colin Harvey when all his stars are fit is to decide on what is his best team.

One player United will need to watch is Graeme Sharp. He has scored in all but one of his six home games against United, including one in last season's 3-1 victory.



Graeme Sharp scored against United last season and will be hoping for a repeat on Saturday.

## Newcastle v Liverpool

KENNY Dalglish's new signings have made this Liverpool side look much more entertaining than for some time.

They've made a great start and if they maintain their recent record at St. James' Park, Peter Beardsley should enjoy his return to his old club.

He will be determined to make this their fifth win in their last seven visits.

It will be an uphill task for Newcastle in front of the TV cameras, even with new star Mirandinha in the team.

## Derby County v Sheffield Wed.

INJURY problems have no doubt been one reason why Wednesday have made such a disappointing start.

Things seem to have gone wrong for Wednesday since centre-half Ian Knight broke a leg in an FA Cup-tie against Chester last season.

Manager Howard Wilkinson tried to bridge the gap by signing Larry May and then made a bid to get Mark Wright, who eventually went to Derby.

The former Southampton defender will be going all out to prove to Wilkinson what he's missing and his form could be a key factor in Derby's season.

## BEAT BROOKING

### FIRST DIVISION

Arsenal	v	Wimbledon	1
Charlton	v	Luton	2
Chelsea	v	Norwich	1
Coventry	v	Forest	1
Derby	v	Sheff. Wed.	1
Everton	v	Man. United	1
Newcastle	v	Liverpool	2

(playing Sunday)

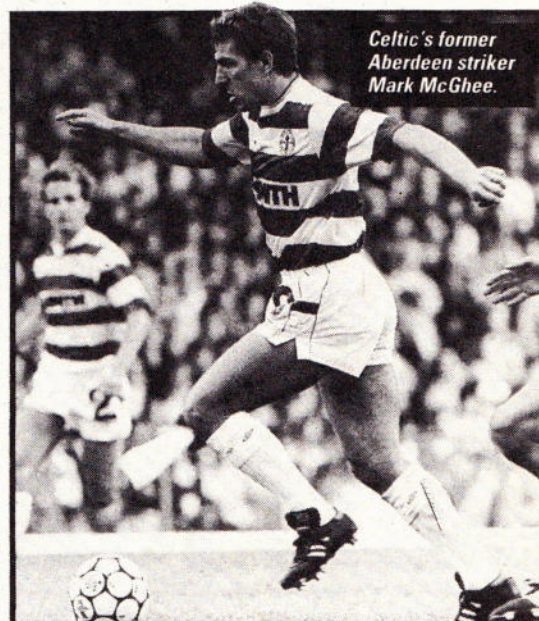
Oxford	v	QPR	X
Watford	v	Portsmouth	1
West Ham	v	Spurs	2

### PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic	v	Aberdeen	X
Dundee	v	Hearts	X
Dunfermline	v	Morton	1
Hibs	v	Falkirk	1
Motherwell	v	Rangers	2
St. Mirren	v	Dundee United	X

1 = home win; 2 = away win; X = draw.

### TREV'S YOUR TIP



Celtic's former Aberdeen striker Mark McGhee.

## Celtic v Aberdeen

THE Dons' Skol Cup victory over Celtic a couple of weeks ago was a real morale booster for an Aberdeen side looking Championship material.

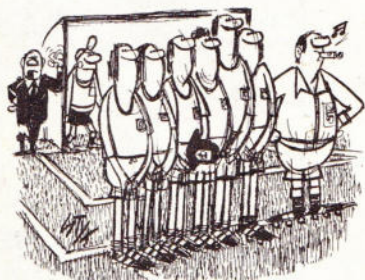
Dons' strength has always been in defence with Jim Leighton, Willie Miller and Alex McLeish playing as well as ever.

The addition of Peter

Nicholas from Luton has helped to bring even more stability to an Aberdeen side that could be tested to the full by Dons old boys Billy Stark and Mark McGhee this week.

Both will be eager to do well against their old club, who are looking for their first win at Parkhead in nine League visits.

## Laugh Lines



"Which of you jokers has pinched my helmet?"



"Thank God we're kicking with the wind in the second-half."

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**This week's Star Letter and £10 winner comes from Peter Mellor of Lambeth Road, Linthorpe in Cleveland.**

## Wonder Walker

Manchester United think they've done well to get Brian McClair, but Celtic have come up with an even better replacement in Andy Walker. Walker scores as many goals but doesn't have McClair's weakness in the air.

**RORY MacRAE, KIRKILL, INVERNESSHIRE.**



McClair is happy with the move, United are happy, Walker (below) is happy and so are Celtic. Isn't life wonderful!

## Quit, Graeme

If Graeme Souness cannot control himself in high pressure matches, it is time he retired. At present he is more of a liability than an asset to Rangers on the field.



Graeme is a volatile player at the best of times, and he's created enormous pressure through his own success at Rangers. Unlike Kenny Dalglish he wants to play every week, and maybe he needs a gentle nudge from the chairman to start building the side without picking himself. As you say, he's doing the team no favours when he makes tackles like the one on Billy Stark at Parkhead the other week.

## Grow up, Bates

Ken Bates won't invite David Evans to Stamford Bridge because Luton ban away fans. Bates' own solution to the hooligan problem was an electrified fence. He's being extremely petty.

**D. J. LLOYD, AMERSHAM, BUCKS.**



Whose side is he on? One minute he's supporting the hooligans, the next he's trying to fry them. Europe is watching everything that goes on in England, and this row is just as damaging as the events at Scarborough. What must UEFA think when the chairman of one of our major teams bans another chairman for trying to cure the game's biggest headache? You're wrong Ken.

## Champion blunder

The decision to cancel the Champions match between Everton and Rangers is a major blunder. The answer to hooliganism is to take more safety precautions, not cancel potentially great games.

**JONATHAN SUTTON, WOODCOTE, READING.**



It was a meaningless match. Apart from half of Glasgow and half of Merseyside, who really cared about it? It would have been different if it had been a European Cup tie. I remember playing for Spurs at Ibrox in the 1963 Cup-Winners' Cup and the atmosphere was electric. I ran from the halfway line to score and you could have heard a pin drop. Thousands of speechless jocks - sheer bliss!

## Wally of the Week

Arsenal should sack George Graham and appoint a decent manager who'll give Charlie Nicholas a chance in the team. Charlie is the best striker in Britain but he can't do it all on his own.

**DEBBIE NEWTON, WOODFORD, ESSEX.**



Charlie is not the best striker in Britain, and you're a Wally for even suggesting otherwise. Graham made a big mistake keeping Charlie. It's a decision they are both regretting now.

# JUST

## Cup Change?

With the football authorities seeking sponsorship at every opportunity, how much longer will it be before the FA Cup has a new name?

**P. A. STRITTON, NORWICH.**



They are not as fanatical as the Football League about sponsorship. They do alright out of the FA Cup Final, and certainly wouldn't change the name of the competition or introduce a new trophy.

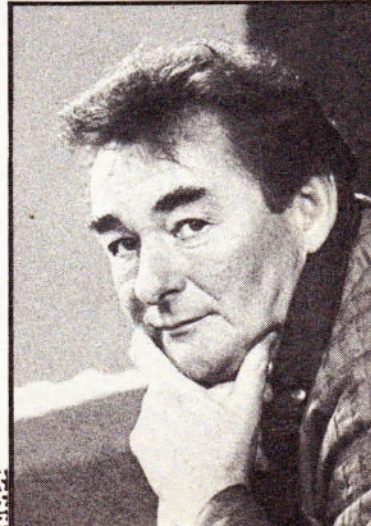
## Cloughie's clangers

Brian Clough was a great goalscorer, so how come he's now such a lousy judge of strikers? Justin Fashanu, Peter Ward, Ian Wallace and now Paul Wilkinson have all cost Forest a small fortune and done nothing.

**ABDUL HAMID, HARTLEPOOL.**



You've certainly got to question quite a few of his buys. Cloughie (below) was one of the men who helped to create the crazy transfer market a few years back with some foolish deals. He'll have to get cracking and produce a few more sons like young Nigel!







THE BOOT ROOM, WHITE HART LANE.



# Hewitt

## Back from the brink

**J**OHN HEWITT doesn't deny he was disappointed when a £350,000 transfer to Celtic fell through before the start of the season.

But a few weeks is a long time in football and on the eve of Aberdeen's vital visit to Parkhead, the Pittodrie ace emphasises: "I know where my bread's buttered."

The former Scotland Under-21 star has patched up his differences with The Dons, come off the transfer list and agreed to see out the remaining two years of his contract.

"Aberdeen left me in no doubt that they weren't prepared to let me go," he explains. "I've accepted the fact that I'm staying put and I'd really like that to be the end of the matter."

### 'Favours'

"Naturally, it has crossed my mind that I might have been lining up against Aberdeen this weekend. But there's no way it will affect my game. I'll be doing Celtic no favours."

At one stage Hewitt was so certain he'd be quitting the club he joined straight from school in 1979 that he sold his home in the Granite City.

"I moved into rented accommodation thinking it was simply a matter of time before I'd be transferred," he adds.

"Now I want to get settled into a new house as quickly as possible."

"I'm just relieved that it didn't affect my form. But Ian Porterfield has told me he's been

pleased with my contribution and if he's satisfied then I'm happy."

"My role is different to what it was in the past. I'm not operating as an out and out striker anymore but as a left-sided midfielder pushing forward."

Hewitt's positional switch has coincided with Aberdeen's early-season surge but he knows they face a stiff test against a Celtic side with equally impressive statistics.

"There was a time when we used to go down to Glasgow and nearly always returned home with a result," he points out.

"But for the past three years or so it hasn't been like that."

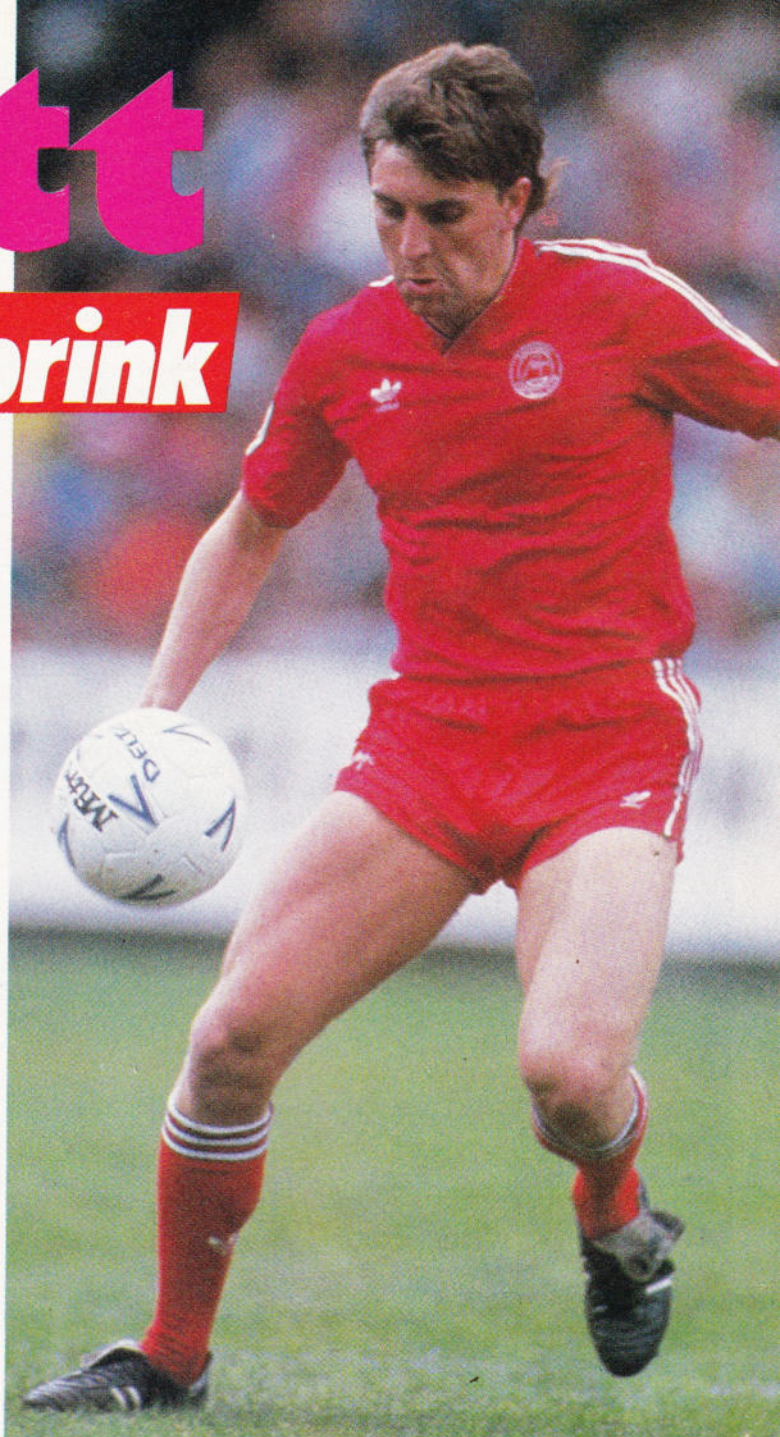
"Celtic don't seem to be missing Brian McClair and Mo Johnston as much as people thought they would. Mark McGhee and Andy Walker seem to be doing the trick."

"And another of my former colleagues, Billy Stark, has made a great start to his Parkhead career. He's been a useful buy, and I know he'll be eager to do well against us."

Hewitt can't see beyond Rangers, Celtic, Hearts, Dundee United and his own club as Championship contenders and feels the standard of Scottish football has never been higher.

"Every game is important but if we can beat the other challengers for the title we won't be doing our own chances any harm."

"That's something we'll bear in mind at Parkhead this weekend."



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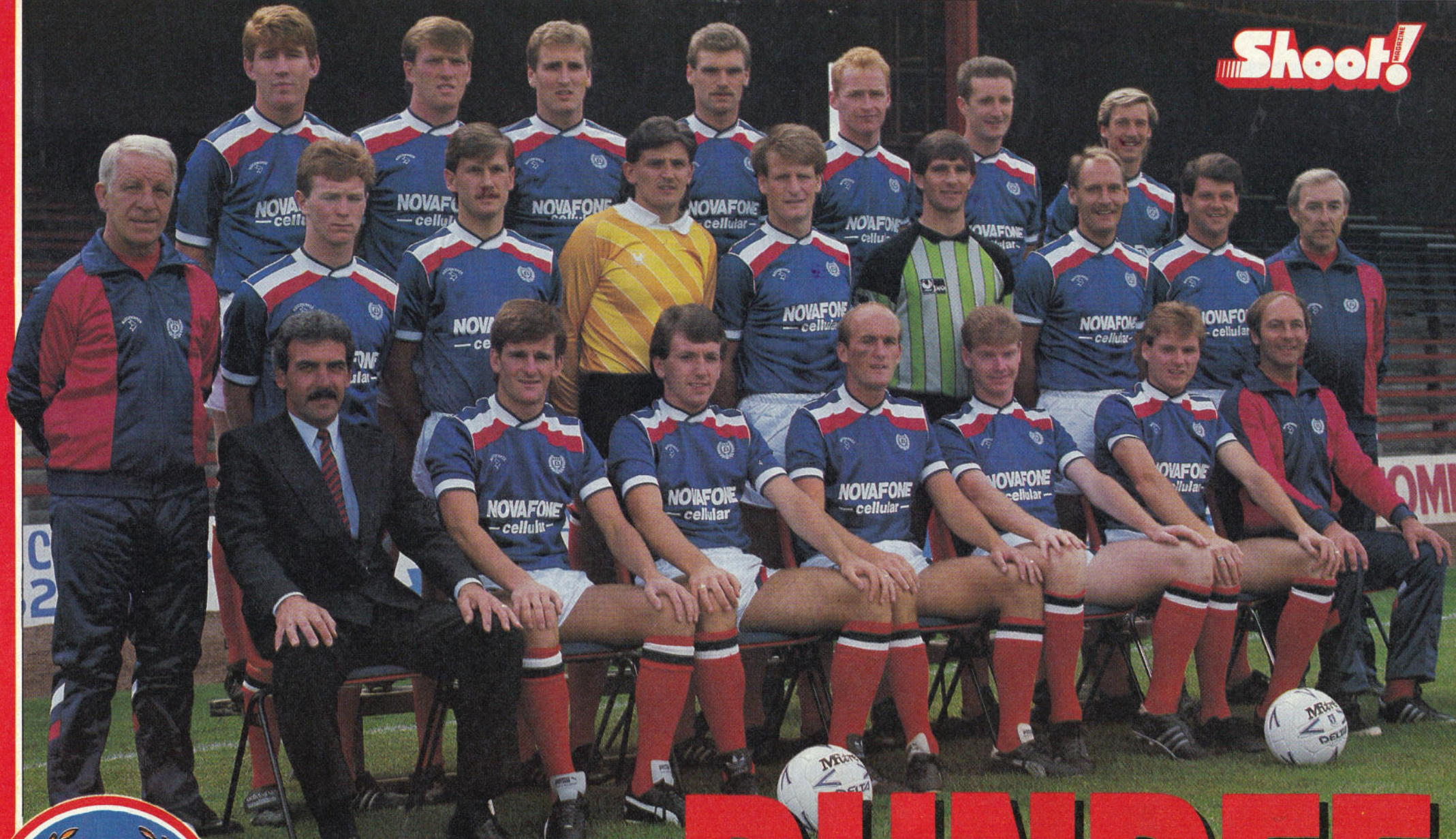


**THE PENALTY AREA, WHITE HART LANE.**

**NIKE**  
AIR



**Shoot!**



**BACK ROW** (left to right): Keith Wright, Stuart Rafferty, Stewart Forsyth, James Smith, John Brown, Graham Harvey, Alan Lawrence.

**MIDDLE ROW:** Bert Slater (coach), Steve Campbell, Ian Angus, Tom Carson, Robert Glennie, Bobby Geddes, George McGeachie, Ross Jack, Eric Ferguson (physio).

**FRONT ROW:** Jocky Scott (manager), Tosh McKinlay, Rab Shannon, Jim Duffy, Vince Mennie, Tommy Coyne, Drew Jarvie (coach).

# DUNDEE





# DEADLY



Can Tommy Coyne (above) and Keith Wright (right) fire Dundee to glory?

**T**WO strikers whose careers were poles apart last season now form one of Scottish football's deadliest double acts.

After more barren years than they care to remember, Dundee fans have picked up the scent of success thanks to the goalscoring exploits of Tommy Coyne and Keith Wright.

Yet less than a year ago both halves of the partnership were asking themselves the same question: "Am I going to make it to the top?"

Coyne was struggling to command a regular first team place across the road at Tannadice, while Wright was playing part-time for Raith Rovers.

"I'd become something of a forgotten man with United," says 24-year-old Coyne. "The move to Dens Park gave me a chance to resurrect my career."

"I thought it would be a problem with the clubs so close to one another but I was lucky enough to settle quickly and get among the goals."

Wright arrived at Dundee a week before Coyne and admits: "I was beginning to think I'd missed the boat."

"I'd been at Raith for four years

and wondered if I'd ever get the chance to step up a level. Just when I'd almost given up hope I learned of Dundee's interest and I couldn't sign quickly enough.

"Don't ask me why Tommy and I have hit it off so well. The chemistry just seems to be right."

The pair contributed 19 League goals between them during the second half of last season – an instant dividend on manager Jocky Scott's £120,000 investment – and have started the current campaign in whirlwind fashion.

## Help

They combined for 14 goals in the club's first eight games to help Dundee to third place in the League and into the Skol Cup Semi-Finals.

But both players insist there is still plenty of room for improvement. "We might have made progress," says former Clydebank striker Coyne. "But what's the point of being satisfied with that? We have to win something first."

Co-striker, Wright, still only 22, is refreshingly honest. "I've still got a lot to learn," he says, "but



I'm lucky to have two of the best teachers in the business.

"Jocky Scott and his assistant, Drew Jarvie, were both forwards and they're always taking me to one side during training sessions to pass on useful tips."

"Also, my pace was never my strongest point. But I went to a professional sprint coach and his advice has really sharpened my game."

Wright reveals that near-neighbours United's remarkable achievements at home and abroad over the years could provide the inspiration for his own club to make a similar challenge for both domestic and European honours.

"The boss is always trying to get us to believe in ourselves."

"We must aim high. A lot of good work has been done but until we actually get our hands on a major trophy you won't hear us shouting too loudly."

"But our confidence is high and we're frightened of no one."

# NOBBY

IT'S NO GOOD BEING ON TOP OF THE WORLD ONE WEEK...



AND THEN HITTING ROCK BOTTOM THE NEXT



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## McGRATH STAYS

**R**epublic of Ireland boss JACK CHARLTON will continue to use PAUL McGRATH in a midfield role in spite of criticism of the Manchester United man's performances for his country.

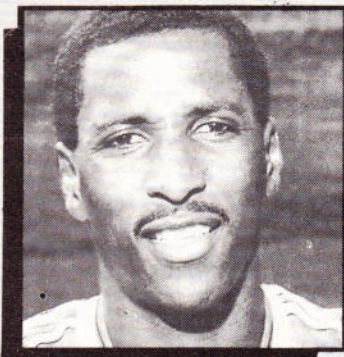
Charlton, who has been confirmed as Eire manager for the next World Cup campaign, says: "Paul is a brilliant centre-half, but I have a number of top class defenders available to me and Paul is adaptable enough to play further forward."

**A**ston Villa boss GRAHAM TAYLOR is carefully monitoring the NIGEL CALLAGHAN situation at Derby.

Rams boss ARTHUR COX has rejected the 25-year-old winger's transfer request and insists Callaghan (below) must stay at the Baseball Ground.

But Taylor, Callaghan's former boss at Watford, is looking for a replacement for the unsettled MARK WALTERS and will be quick to move should Derby change their minds.

He won't wait forever, however, and has already taken a look at Aberdeen's PETER WEIR.



## Viv's a steal

**A**LEX FERGUSON may only have offered £100,000 for Arsenal's VIV ANDERSON before a tribunal set the fee at £250,000, but now the Manchester United boss believes he got himself a real bargain.

Says Fergie: "You cannot put a price on Viv's enthusiasm."

"He's 31-years-old and has won every honour going, but he's still got more appetite for the game than most players ten years his junior."

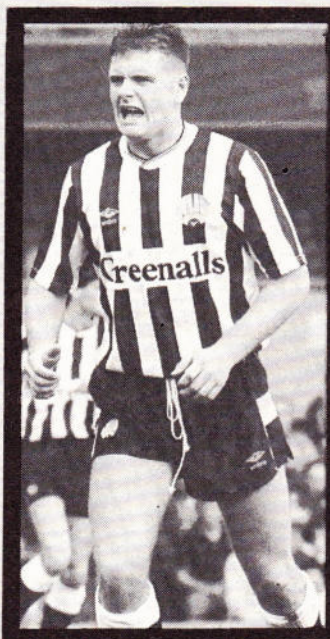
Crossword Answers: (1) Alan Hansen. (2) John Lukic. (3) Imre Varadi. (4) Darren Wood. (5) Bradshaw. (6) Paul Davis. (7) Gary Briggs. (8) Davenport. (9) Mark Reid. (10) Cockerill. (11) Alan Harper. DALE GORDON.

Quiz Answers. STEVEN. 1. 2. Right. 3. Steve McCall, Martin Hodge, Sheffield Wednesday. 4. Burnley, yes. McGRATH: 1. McClair. 2. Republic. 3. Viv Anderson (England) and Kenny Jackett (Wales). 4. Charlton. NEVIN: 1. Sealey. 2. False. 3. Clyde. 4. 1986.

# IRWIN



**O**xford have been monitoring the progress of Brighton and Northern Ireland winger STEVE PENNEY and are expected to make a bid as soon as they're satisfied he has made a complete recovery from the broken leg he sustained last term.



**I**t hasn't taken Newcastle's PAUL GASCOIGNE (above) too long to get into the swing of things since taking up angling.

Reports his St. James' Park skipper GLENN ROEDER: "Whenever Paul comes fishing with me he never catches a thing. But whenever I'm not there he tells me he catches real whoppers."





# AT LARGE



# LAY OFF NICO

**S**purs boss DAVID PLEAT has come to the defence of his under fire striker NICO CLAESEN.

Chelsea's STEVE WICKS recently accused the Belgian of deliberately trying to get him sent-off, an allegation first expressed by DAVE BASSETT last season.

But Pleat says: "Wicks was out of order."

"Nico may have exaggerated a bit, but he was simply looking for protection from the referee. It's a tactic employed by many Continental forwards."

"He was just making the point that he had been kicked throughout the match."

Liverpool have beaten a number of First Division rivals for the signature of 16-year-old Dubliner DAVID COLLINS. David is the younger brother of Portsmouth's EAMONN COLLINS, who created Football League history when he played for Blackpool at 14.

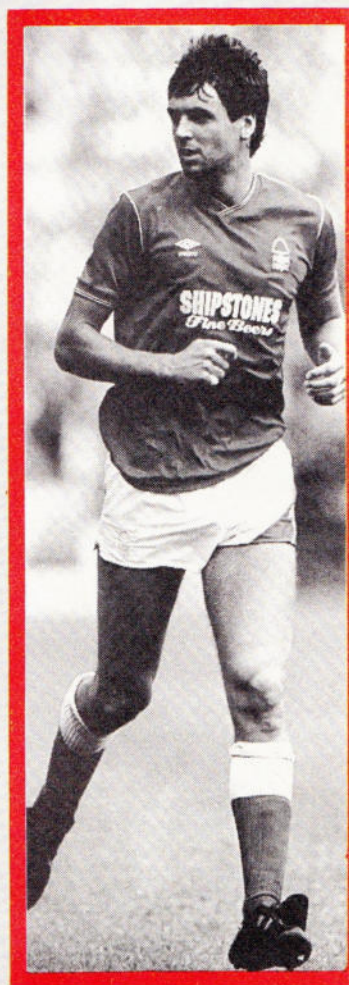
## Connor fury

Aberdeen midfield man ROBERT CONNOR is furious that the club have rejected Rangers' £300,000 offer for him.

Connor (left) says: "I'm not prepared to hang around waiting for a first team place any longer. I see no future at Pittodrie."

"I like the Aberdeen set-up, but I don't seem to be part of IAN PORTERFIELD's plans and cannot understand why he won't sell me."

"I want to move as quickly as possible to get my career going again."



## FOSTER

### Too good for Dons

Nottingham Forest are lucky that FRANK CLARK is such a soccer purist.

Because Orient boss Clark refused to sell centre-half COLIN FOSTER (left) to up and under merchants Wimbledon.

Says Foster: "Wimbledon's offer met Orient's asking price and I was happy to go to Plough Lane."

"But Frank said their long-ball game would ruin my career and refused to sell me."

## Waddle quits

S Spurs and England superstar CHRIS WADDLE isn't exactly the most aggressive player in the world, but his wife JULIE turns out to be something of a terror with a hockey stick.

Reveals Chris: "Julie got sent-off so many times that she's had to pack the game in. She was the GRAHAM ROBERTS of the hockey field!"



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**Save The Bridge and build a future.**





# Explo co

## Fash AND GIBBO

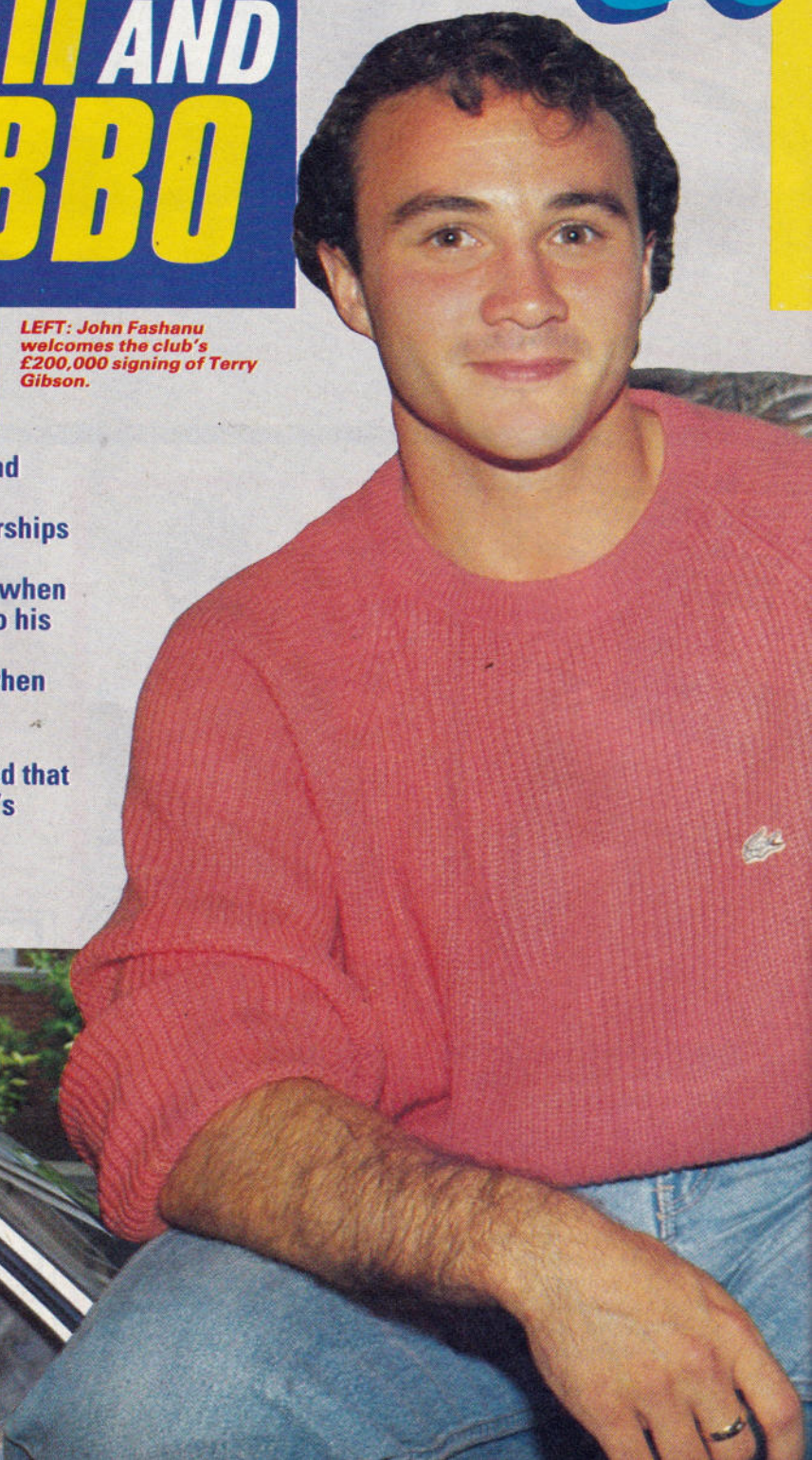
**LEFT:** John Fashanu welcomes the club's £200,000 signing of Terry Gibson.

**V**ODKA combination! Tiny terror Terry Gibson and fearless John Fashanu are certain to provide Wimbledon with one of the most potent partnerships in the First Division.

Gibbo opted for another slice of southern comfort when he left Manchester United in a £200,000 move back to his native London.

And he soon broke the ice with his new partner when whisking his wife, Paula, and their bubbly daughter, Chloe, round to Fash's new flat for a gin wag.

Fash was delighted to play mine host and promised that the pair of them will add plenty of fizz to Wimbledon's attack. Dons fans will drink to that.





# Active cocktail

**Pals  
in  
private**

**deadly on the  
pitch**

**RIGHT: Terry  
Gibson made an  
immediate impact  
on his debut at  
Derby County's  
Baseball Ground.**





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# NEW FACES

**S** COTTISH soccer's new faces have been voted a resounding hit by the delighted fans.

Step forward Celtic's Andy Walker and Billy Stark and Aberdeen's Welsh international Peter Nicholas as the close-season purchases who have rocketed to the top of the star buys league.

Walker, who cost £350,000 from Motherwell, has been in electrifying form and international honours are now just around the corner for the player who insists he is not an out-and-out goalscorer, but who keeps knocking them in!

Stark, 30, thought his best days were behind him when he was dropped at the end of last season by Aberdeen and was facing football oblivion when his contract at Pittodrie expired.

## NICHOLAS

### Ambitious



Celtic boss Billy McNeill stepped in with a £75,000 bid, the Dons agreed and Stark has been given a new lease of life.

He celebrated his first Old Firm match by scoring a memorable winner in a performance that had McNeill singing his praises.

"Old Firm games tend to be a bit special and they can separate the men from the boys," he said.

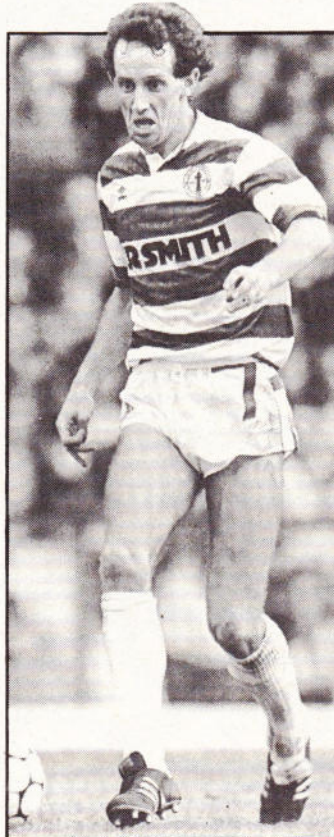
And what about the only Welshman in the Premier Division, Aberdeen's £300,000 buy from Luton, Peter Nicholas?

The extremely competitive midfielder is enjoying life thoroughly in Scotland and says: "I'm here because I'm ambitious."

"People who say the game is better in England than it is here are talking rubbish."

"It's every bit as hard, but the teams play better football in Scotland."

"And, of course, there is the plus factor of being involved in



European football."

Rangers have hardly made the start everyone was expecting of them and their new signings are taking their time settling in.

Mark Falco, Graeme Souness' £300,000 signing from Watford, has found the pace extremely tough and will need time to adjust. He has found to his cost that referees in Scotland do not automatically award a foul when there is a tackle from behind.

## WALKER

### Electrifying

## STARK

### Revitalised

John McGregor, signed from Liverpool, and Avi Cohen, bought from Israeli club Maccabi, have not proved to be the right mix in the heart of the defence when Graham Roberts and Terry Butcher haven't been available.

They now realise that Butcher wasn't kidding when he said teams like to play their football at 100 miles per hour!

Trevor Francis has had a slow start because of his shoulder injury, but young Ian McCall, a sensational £200,000 buy from Dunfermline just days before the Old Firm game, almost had a shocker of a debut in the Parkhead confrontation when he came on as a second-half substitute for Davie Cooper.

He had only been on the field a couple of minutes when he headed against his own crossbar!

One former Ranger who is revelling in new colours is Davie McPherson, who cost Hearts £300,000 in a shock summer move.

Tynecastle's millionaire chairman Wallace Mercer says: "The boy has already proved to be a magnificent acquisition for this club."

### Impact

Hearts paid £100,000 for Rangers' utility player Hugh Burns at the same time and although he hasn't made the same impact as McPherson his form is still satisfying the club.

Across Edinburgh, Hibs believe they have made a sound investment in Neil Orr, who cost £100,000 from West Ham. He will be allowed to settle into a midfield role and will be joined there by another recent buy Andy Watson, who cost £30,000 from rivals Hearts.

And just to confuse things on Tayside, Dundee United manager Jim McLean has signed TWO Alan Irvines!

The first Alan Irvine to arrive at Tannadice was the right-winger from Crystal Palace and he was joined two months later by his striker namesake from Liverpool.

Jim McLean rarely makes mistakes in the transfer market and United fans are watching eagerly for fireworks from both these players.



# A Saint writes off the League title, but has

**S**outhampton's Colin Clarke returns to his old club with a pledge: "We can win the Littlewoods Cup."

The Northern Ireland striker comes under the spotlight when Saints meet South Coast neighbours Bournemouth in their Second Round, first-leg tie at Dean Court next week.

But the Second Division newcomers can expect little encouragement from their former goalscorer, who has ambitions to add domestic medals to his nine international caps.

Clarke says: "I don't think we'll ever push Liverpool and the other big clubs for the League Championship. They've got too much spending power for the less fashionable side - like Southampton."

"But I think we can give them a real run for their money in the Cup competitions, and it is time we reached Wembley again."

Saints, FA Cup winners in 1976 and League Cup Finalists in 1979, have been Cup Semi-Final losers in three of the last four seasons.

They lost to Everton at Highbury in 1984 and two years later fell to Liverpool at White Hart Lane. Both Merseyside clubs went on to lift the FA Cup.

Last season they succumbed to Liverpool's might for a second time, on this occasion in the newly sponsored Littlewoods Cup.

But Clarke looks at Coventry's success in the FA Cup for inspiration and says: "Clubs like ourselves can take hope from their achievement."

*Happy Saints after winning the 1976 FA Cup Final. Now Southampton are ready to go back to Wembley.*



# Colin's Wembley ta

"It isn't impossible for the less fashionable clubs to win the League. There have been exceptions like Nottingham Forest and Aston Villa in recent times and Ipswich were unlucky not to win the title six years ago."

"But history shows that it is in the Cup competitions where we have the best chance of success."

Clarke refutes suggestions that Southampton will be weaker without England internationals Peter Shilton and Mark Wright, who have both signed for Derby.

"It hasn't worked out that way so far," he insists. "We've still got experienced players at the club, including Jimmy Case and Kevin Bond, and manager Chris Nicholl has made some good signings."

"Gordon Hobson is a striker like myself; signed from outside Division One. But I think our partnership is beginning to blossom this season."



*Glenn Cockerill has been a smash hit at The Dell*

"And Glenn Cockerill has been a great success at the club. He created many of my 22 goals last season and is extremely dangerous when moving forward."

Clarke himself could, at one stage, have joined the exodus from The Dell after contractual disputes with the club.

## 'Successful'

"But that is all settled now," he says. "I'm looking forward to a successful season with the club."

Clarke's air of expectancy is bad news for Bournemouth. Even worse is his impressive record against South Coast sides already this season.

He struck against his old club in a pre-season friendly and blasted two more at Portsmouth in a pulsating First Division derby.

He reflects: "We won't fall into

the trap of reading too much into the result at Bournemouth. We won 3-0 but won't expect such an easy game this time."

"Dean Court will be packed to capacity and the supporters are bound to give them a lift."

Clarke scored 31 goals for Bournemouth during his one and only season with them before a £400,000 move to The Dell in June, 1986.

"The side has changed completely since then. They've done well, too, winning promotion to the Second Division without me. I'm not sure whether I should read anything into that," he adds with a grin.

Bournemouth also have a Saints old-boy contingent, with David Armstrong joining David Puckett and Mark Whitlock at the club before the start of the season.

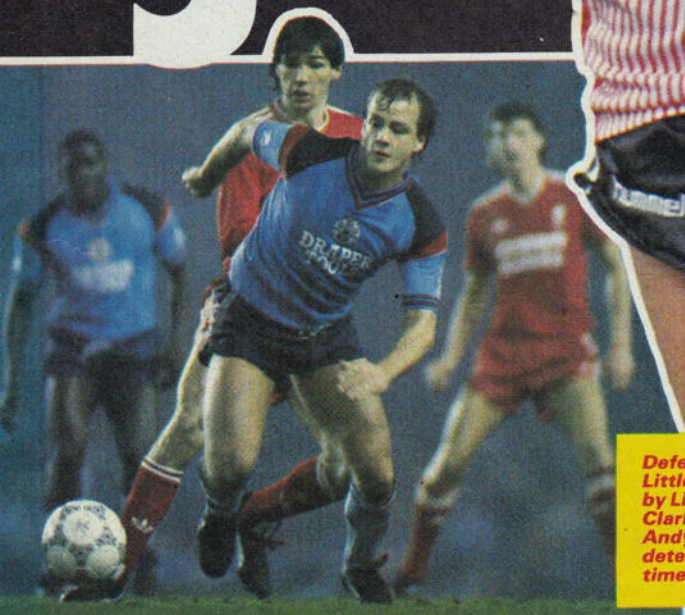
Clarke thinks the tie could be a cracker. He could be right.



other plans ....

**'We could  
be the Cup  
kings'**

**target**



Defeat in last season's Littlewoods Cup Semi-Final by Liverpool (left) has made Clarke and Saints team-mate Andy Townsend more determined than ever this time out.





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